FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 AUGUST 1984

Gulf Conflict

Iraqi planes "accurately and effectively" hit a "very large maritime target" in the Khark Island area on 9 August, according to an Iraqi military spokesman cited by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio. All of the attacking aircraft returned safely, the spokesman added.

In another development, Saudi King Fahd discussed the Iran-Iraq war during talks with visiting Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim, INA noted.

Iran

Plane Hijacking — The hijackers of the Iranian plane commandeered on 7 August surrendered in Rome after releasing all passengers, Tehran radio reported. The two hijackers claimed to be members of Mas'ud Rajavi's Mojahedin-e Khalq, AFP noted, although a source close to Rajavi denied the claim. Commenting on the hijacking, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi told IRNA that the incident was connected with Iran's "crucial role" in the upcoming hajj ceremonies rather than related to the recently hijacked Air France plane. He also said the incident was rooted in the confrontation between Iran and the "world oppressive powers" and France.

OPEC Delegation — An OPEC delegation composed of UAE Petroleum Minister Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, Algerian Energy Minister Belkacem Nabi, and Venezuelan Energy Minister Arturo Hernandez arrived to discuss issues related to the oil market, prices, and production, IRNA reported.

Gulf of Suez Minesweeping

Egyptian Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah confirmed that Egypt has asked the United States to send minesweeping helicopters to the Gulf of Suez, according to MENA. Four helicopters dispatched by the United States for this purpose have arrived in Spain and will reach their destination within 10 days, Madrid radio noted. In London, the PRESS ASSOCIATION reported that Britain is sending four minesweepers to help search for mines in the area. Meanwhile, after meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand in Paris, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid disclosed that he had conveyed a message to the French leader concerning the situation in the Red Sea, MENA reported.

Lebanon

The Cabinet has decided to abolish the contact lines in the Ash-Shuf mountain area and to reopen the Beirut-Damascus highway and the north-south coastal road between the Al-Madfun and Al-Awwali Rivers, Prime Minister Rashid Karami stated in remarks broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio following the Cabinet meeting in B'abda. The Army and Internal Security Forces have been entrusted with implementing this plan and with holding contacts with the parties concerned to overcome existing difficulties, he added.

However, Government Minister Walid Junblatt subsequently told his forces in a speech broadcast by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio that the Lebanese Army "will not enter the mountain," though he added that the Progressive Socialist Party will accept the reopening of the international highways and will accept a cease-fire on the mountain by opening the road from 'Alayh to Suq al-Gharb. Junblatt criticized the "retreat" of some Cabinet members "who belonged to the opposition yesterday" and who should "return to the national ranks before it is too late."

In Beirut, 3 people were killed and over 20 others were injured when a bomb exploded in the Al-Bastah area on 9 August, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported.

PLO Affairs

A two-man PLO Executive Committee delegation held talks with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus on ways to improve PLO-Syrian relations, KUNA reported citing a PLO official.

The delegation also met with leaders of Palestinian resistance factions based in Damascus to discuss a formula for an agreement to settle differences between all Palestinian organizations and to fix a date for the PNC session, the official added.

Meanwhile, a Fatah Central Committee statement broadcast by San'a' Voice of Palestine radio noted "with bitterness" that some parties are raising minor problems in order to "delay" Palestinian unity and are undermining PLO institutions by attacking the Algiers-Aden agreement and by trying to postpone the PNC session. Stressing the need for full commitment to the Aden-Algiers agreement, the statement asserted that 15 September is the latest possible date for the PNC session.

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'Arafat Addresses African Conference in Tunis

JN081755 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has addressed a conference on solidarity with the African peoples' struggle which began its work in Tunis yesterday. In his address, Abu 'Ammar said: History has proved that racists and imperialists cannot achieve their objectives against our Arab and African peoples unless they deal with us unilaterally. He added: When we unite and are determined to struggle, we will be able to defeat them and achieve victories.

Abu 'Ammar said: The Palestinian people recently faced a dangerous conspiracy similar to the conspiracy being concocted against the Namibian people. This conspiracy was devised by the U.S. Administration and others and is meant to strike at the PLO to liquidate its infrastructure and split its institutions. He added: We must confirm here the lesson that we derive from history: that victory can only be achieved through the unity of both the people and their struggling groups and also through armed struggle and sacrifices. This is in addition to wisdom, which is needed to steer the policy that can translate a military victory into a political one; a policy that is characterized by making initiatives, not by running after slogans or remaining subject to hesitation.

Abu 'Ammar said: Our brothers in Africa are aware of the fact that Israeli infiltration in Africa aims at cracking Arab- African relations and solidarity and at imposing economic hegemony on African countries through the companies to whose financing both the racist and facist regimes in Pretoria and Tel Aviv contribute. We call on everyone here to be cautious and to boycott these new colonialist centers according to the UN resolutions.

'Arafat Makes Statement to Tunisian Radio, TV

JN081837 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has emphasized that the Zionist entity is currently suffering from a political, military, and economic dilemma and is witnessing a state of complete confusion in all fields.

In a statement he made to Tunisian radio and television yesterday, Abu 'Ammar said that the results of the recent Zionist elections embody this dilemma and state of confusion. He added that the Zionist entity is currently facing a successful war of attrition waged by the Palestinians and the Lebanese and that the Zionist entity is trying to discharge its anger, which is a result of the heroic and successful operations against its forces, by savagely raiding Al-Aranib Island, Al-Baddawi, and Nahr al-Barid from the air and sea.

'Arafat touched on the conspiracies that are being devised against the Palestinian people inside the occupied homeland. He said that these conspiracies are represented by Judaizing Islamic and Christian holy shrines, expropriating lands, and building settlements with U.S. approval and funds. He added that the Palestinian people inside the occupied homeland are currently paying 38 types of taxes to the Zionist occupation authorities, which is only a small amount of the pressure and terrorism imposed on them. He said these taxes are in addition to their oppression by the Zionist terrorist organizations that are sponsored, financed, and armed by these authorities.

Abu 'Ammar said that the PLO will make great efforts during the forthcoming UN session to propose holding an international conference on the Middle East problem.

Abu 'Ammar expressed his pride with our Palestinian people's steadfastness and rallying around the PLO, their legitimate representative, during difficult circumstances. He noted that the Paelstinian groups have agreed to hold the PNC session as soon as possible in order to strengthen the Palestinian revolution and to confront the challenges and new developments in both the Palestinian and Arab arenas.

'Arafat To Propose International Conference

JN081810 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has said that at the forthcoming UN session, the PLO will propose holding an international conference to deal with the Middle East problem.

In a news conference he held following the first session of the conference on solidarity with the South African people's struggle against racism, Abu 'Ammar affirmed that the PNC will meet during the second half of August and the first half of September 1984. He condemned the Zionist attempts to Judaize both the Islamic and Christian holy shrines in the occupied Palestinian territories. He said that the Zionist entity is currently witnessing a state of confusion, revealed by the recent Zionist elections. He reiterated that among the causes for this state of confusion is economic inflation, which has reached a recorded level of 400 percent.

Fatah Central Committee Tunis Statement

GF072027 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Aug 84

["Text" of statement issued by the Fatah Central Committee after its meetings in Tunis on 6 August]

[Text] On 3 August 1984, the Fatah Central Committee [FCC] resumed its meetings, which had originally begun on 29 July, but which had been suspended because of the meetings of the PLO Executive Committee. The FCC continued discussion of the items on its agenda and reviewed some previously discussed issues in terms of the new developments.

Regarding the Algiers-Aden agreement, the FCC listened to a report by the Fatah delegation which went to Algiers on 28 July and was led by Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir]. Brothers George Habash and Nayif Hawatimah met to prepare for the comprehensive Palestinian dialogue as directed by the Algiers-Aden agreement. The FCC acquainted itself with the results of these discussions and the exchanged proposals. These proposals focused on some points dealing with the executive steps pertaining to the agreement those dealing with national dialogue and those dealing with asserting that 15 September will be the latest date for the convocation of the 17th PNC session. All those who met in Algiers stressed that the full commitment to the Aden-Algiers agreement is the basic requirement of the factions that signed these agreements. It was also stressed that the serious steps must be quickly taken to ensure complete success in this direction. It was also agreed that the next meeting will be held in Algiers in mid-August after the brothers taking part in the agreement have completed their efforts on behalf of the complete dialogue. In light of the aforementioned points and after protracted discussion of the subject, the FCC concluded the following: 1. The Aden-Algiers agreement is regarded as a great achievement for the Palestinian national unity and for the independence of the Palestinian national decision. It is also regarded as an important step forward for the Palestinian struggle under the PLO leadership on all the struggle arenas.

2. This necessitates full adherence to the provisions of the agreement by all factions which signed it. Fatah bears its full responsibility in this connection and will counter any attempt to impair or undermine the agreement. In doing so, Fatah is not only expressing the will of its leadership and cadres, it is also expressing the aspirations of our steadfast people who are struggling inside and outside the occupied homeland and the desire of all the friends of our people throughout the world.

3. All this requires facilitiating all that can contribute to the success of the comprehensive national dialogue as described in the agreement. This also requires full commitment to the agreement.

4. A large-scale move on the fraternal Arab scene and among our friends on the international level will be required to explain the Algiers-Aden agreement and its significance.

A lengthy discussion was then held on the current Arab situation and Arab differences. These differences will result in stagnant Arab moves, obstruction of Arab services, and other harmful repercussions which could obstruct the summit conference or delay the restoration of Arab solidarity and, consequently, paralyze Arab moves on the Arab and international levels to tackle the existing problems, whether relating to the Iraq-Iran war or to the U.S. Middle East policy that is hostile to our masses, to the struggle of our people, and to our Palestinian cause. The continuation of such a situation will not only harm the Arab nation's regional and national interests and interfere with the conflict with the Zionist enemy, it will also make it possible for the Zionist policy and the U.S. Middle East policy to achieve successes which would not be achieved if there were solidarity among the Arabs.

In the framework of integration cooperation to serve the struggle of the Palestinian people and to deal with Zionist and other plots against our people and struggle and our nation's supreme regional and national interests, the FCC listened to Brother Yasir 'Arafat describe the efforts being made by the Good Offices Committee to stop the Iraq-Iran war and contact a number of Arab and Muslim countries on the initiative on the Muslim peace force.

The convocation of the Arab summit conference to restore Arab solidarity and organize the mechanism ['alliyah] of Arab and collective moves is one of the first priorities in facing the Zionist enemy and his plots. Thus, the FCC determined it should activate all its relations and make every effort to prepare well for the convocation of a successful Arab summit which will overcome the crisis of paralysis and stagnancy in the Arab situation.

Out of its concern about the need for Arab-Palestinian integration, the FCC attached importance to the convocation of the PNC on schedule and in accordance with the Algiers-Aden agreement. The FCC stressed the significance of full commitment by all parties of this agreement. The FCC attached importance to the need for the legitimate Palestinian institutions to resume their efficient activities in struggle on the basis of Palestinian national unity in the framework of the independent Palestinian decisionmaking. This must be based on Arab moves of solidarity and overall integration so that Palestinian legitimacy and its institutions will be a factor of unity and strength for the Arab revolution in general and for facing present and future threats to the Arabs and the Palestinian people resulting from friendly and hostile activities which have begun to appear and about which information has begun to leak.

The continuation of the Arab stagnancy, the consequent absence of Arab action, the retreat of the Arab cause in the international arena, and the stagnancy of the Fes resolutions and the other resolutions of the Arab summits will delay the Arab commitment to the Palestinian issue and to the Palestinian struggle, which will leave the Palestinian capability and legitimacy alone to face the enemy activities. This causes equal harm to Arabs and Palestinians.

The results of the Israeli elections may bring the Labor Party, which was assigned to form the government of the Zionist entity, to rule either through a coalition with the Likud or through a coalition with the minor forces in the Knesset. Reports have begun to leak from Europe and the United States about new initiatives that the Labor Party may propose — in the event it succeeds in forming the government — within the framework of a European and U.S. consent. The Labor Party, despite its Zionist attitude and rascism, is proposing its thoughts skillfully so that the pro-Zionist forces can avoid the crises brought about by the Likud methods. Also, reports have been leaked from the United States about U.S. ideas that conform with the ideas of the Labor Party. These ideas will be announced if this party succeeds in forming the government. From here, the coming stage will witness a new Zionist crisis, smooth in shape, but still Zionist in essence.

Such an atmosphere requires an Arab summit and clear serious and collective Arab resolutions. It also requires the legitimate Palestinian institutions to be especially effective in order to confront the expected new designs with the required struggle and to foil them in the interest of the Arab and Palestinian stands. This shows the importance of convening the PNC on 15 September as scheduled in the Algiers-Aden agreement so that the legitimate Palestinian capability can move at the level of the required responsibility within the framework of the expected Arab summit; in the various arenas of struggle; and in the military, political, and information fields. This also shows how erroneous it would be for any front to oppose or try to delay the implementation of the Algiers-Aden agreement and shows the importance of the committtment to this agreement by the parties which approved it.

Within the framework of these expectations and this information, the Soviet Union declared its new initiative, which adds to its previous initiative more comprehensive practical procedures. The initiative clearly supports the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and affirms the eventuality of the participation of the PLO in the international conference as a major element in the struggle in the Middle East and on the basis that no peace can be established in the Middle East without the restoration of the national rights of the Palestinian people and the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, to return to their homeland in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations, and to establish their own independent state. The initiative states clearly the right of the independent Palestinian state to practice its sovereignty fully, including the establishment of a confederation with fraternal Jordan and explains in detail the international conference under the auspices of the United Nations and the international guarantees required for the security of all countries, including the Palestinian state. The initiative conforms with the Fes resolutions and also specifies the parties concerned about the matter which should participate in the international conference. These include the PLO, Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon.

In its most recent initiative the friendly Soviet Union did not only announce the initiative, it also sent an important delegation to discuss it with Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and the PLO. This gives this initiative a practical and distinctively serious importance. The Soviet Union should be thanked for its initiative. The FCC also thinks that the timing of the initiative and the subsequent discussions with the concerned Arab parties have not come from a political vacuum and have not emerged only from the Soviet principled belief in the necessity of work for achieving peace that is based on justice in the Middle East and on its belief that the Palestinian issue and the national Palestinian rights are the axis of this just peace. The FCC is convinced that the timing of this initiative and its developed formula and the manner of consultations with the Arab parties and the PLO indicate that the fraternal Soviet Union is aware of the information which we referred to regarding the possibility of the emergence of Zionist and U.S. initiatives in the stage following the formation of the government by the Labor Party and the U.S. presidential election.

Our gratitude for and approval of this Soviet initiative are not only due to the conformity of the initiative with the PNC resolutions and the Fes resolution, but they are also due to the fact that the timing of the initiative represents a protective attack against the expected hostile initiatives by the Labor Party and against the U.S. Middle East policy, which is strategically allied with the Zionist enemy, especially since the Zionist entity announced its rejection of the initiative as soon as it was made and since Washington described it as not being serious.

While the FCC highly assesses this Soviet initiative and its contents, timing, and context, it bitterly notices that the friends are ahead of the brothers in adopting practical positions with regard to the protective attack required to repulse the expected Zionist-U.S. attack. It also notes with bitterness that some parties are causing unimportant problems in the Palestinian arena in order to delay the national Palestinian unity and to curtail the effectiveness of the PLO's legitimate institutions by attacking the Algiers-Aden agreement and by trying to delay the convening of the PNC, which is scheduled to be held on 15 September. These parties are using for that purpose the policy of terrorism and financial intimidation.

The Fatah Central Commitee reviewed the reports on the European stand and on the visit of President Mitterrand to Jordan and Egypt. It also reviewed the visit of French External Relations Minister Cheyssson to Syria and to the Zionist entity. The results of this visit were hostile to the Palestinian people and were recently denied by the French External Relations Ministry. The FCC noted that with the exception of France, Italy, and Greece, the stands of some European countries are passive while the stands of the others are retreating from the struggle of our people, either because of economic situations and internal problems or because of U.S. pressure. The initiative role played by France in the Venice delcaration is over. Although the French officials affirmed that the French stand has not retreated, we say that this stand has not advanced. Regardless of the internal problems in Europe and the U.S. pressures which led to this stagnancy, and regardless of statements made by European officials that it is necessary to wait for the results of the Israeli elections and of the U.S. presidential election, it is necessary to point out that the state of the existing Arab differences and the influence of this on the Arab capability in the international arena has helped Europe to justify its political stands toward the Palestinian issue, the struggle in the Middle East, and the Iran-Iraq war.

This European stand requires a move by the major Arab countries, which have a great many common interests with Europe. Accordingly, the FCC has decided to move in the Arab arena in this framework and to forward a memorandum on that to the PLO Executive Committee so that it can play its role in this regard. The many European queries about the PNC and the date of its convening reflect the distorted reports released by the opportunistic parties in the Palestinian revolution in this regard.

With regard to the internal situation in the Fatah movement, the FCC reviewed the reports from its leading committees — the occupied homeland committee, the finance committee, and the information committee. It also reviewed what has been achieved by the mobilization and organization committee and the security committee. The FCC passed special resolutions in these areas and promised to discuss anything related to the other leading committees in the next meeting.

The FCC passed special resolutions on the formation of a number of delegations and specified the tasks of these delegations so that they can move urgently within the framework of the financial resolutions adopted by the FCC.

The FCC reviewed all reports on the conditions of our people and their struggle and suffering in the occupied homeland and the responsibilities of our movement toward our steadfast people. In this regard, it adopted resolutions that can be implemented quickly. It also discussed in detail the basic rules of the important new working plan which is currently being studied within the framework of the reorganization and revival of the work in this regard and in all fields.

However, based on the Algiers-Aden agreement, the FCC should elucidate the pioneering struggle role played by the masses of our people both inside and outside the occupied homeland — this role which contributed clearly to consolidating the PLO status on the Arab and international arenas, to conserving the Palestinian legitimacy and the independence of the national Palestinian decision, and to foiling the conspiracy of the autonomy rule by rejecting the decisions of the occupation authorities in the occupied homeland and by rejecting any foreign interference in the local affairs of the PLO.

The FCC clearly understands that our people in the occupied homeland, who are waging their daily struggle against the authorities, have managed with the capability of the masses to stand alongside the PLO and the legitimate Palestinian leadership in its battles throughout the past years, especially during the past 2 years.

Our people are doing all that with their struggle steadfastness and with their capability to exist and with their national and patriotic and initiative stands which respond to their legitimate leadership. Our people are doing all that and are worthy of the sacred struggle's respect. Moreover, our people represent the Palestinian popular force which is defending and struggling for national unity and [word indistinct] on the basis of confidence, loyalty and committment.

The FCC understands the role played by our people through these stands in contributing to the success of the Palestinian dialogue, which led to the achievement of the Algiers-Aden agreement. These popular stands will also play the decisive role in imposing the commitment to the Algiers-Aden agreement and in isolating anyone who tries to undermine or criticize it or to drag it away from the framework of the Palestinian popular protection.

All this entitles the FCC to give special priority to rapid action on basis of the stands of our people and their aspirations, which are above any other political or organizational stands and aspirations.

Nimr Salih Cites Desire To Return to Fatah Ranks

GF081945 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 7 Aug 84 p 1

["Exclusive" report from Beirut]

[Text] Arab sources have said that Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], one of the Fatah dissidents who was recently dismissed from the Palestinian opposition, has sent a message to Mr Yasir 'Arafat, expressing his desire to return and forget the past.

The sources regarded this as a development within the framework of reorganizing the Palestinian movement. The Arab sources said they expected the current confusion in the ranks of the Palestinian dissidents to serve the efforts to improve the Syrian-Palestinian relations.

DFLP Statement Released After Talks With Syrians

LD082153 Kuwait KUNA in English 1822 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus, Aug 8 (KUNA) — A prominent Palestinian leader announced here Wednesday that means of ending inter-Palestinian differences were discussed and approved during talks here with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq Shar'.

A statement distributed today by the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) quoted its Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah as saying that the Palestinian Democratic Alliance has sought Syrian mediation efforts to conciliate with the National Alliance, similar to the successful Algerian-South Yemeni reconciliation between the Democratic Alliance and the Central Committee of the major commando movement, Fatah.

The Democratic Alliance groups the DFLP, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Palestinian Liberation Movement, and the Palestinian Communist Party while the National Alliance groups the PFLP-General Command, the As-Saiqah organization, the Fatah breakaways and the Popular Struggle Front.

Hawatimah, who was among the democratic team to meetings with Syrian officials, stressed that the alliance suports solving inter-Palestinian differences within the PLO's legitimate bodies and held the National Alliance responsible for current disintegration and leading inter-Palestinian dialogue to a deadlock.

The National Alliance sets preconditions to solving problems within the PLO and works for attaining solutions from without the PLO's legitimate bodies, he charged.

Voice of PLO Scores Arab Failure To Hold Summit

JN082000 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1632 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The issue of the Red Sea mines may not have so far reached the significance of the Zionist invasion of Lebanon or the Iraq-Iran war; still, like all those important events, this issue has again proved the Arab capitals' inability to meet, plan, and confront. We are noting in particular how the Arab summit, which was called to meet during the invasion of Lebanon, has continued to be postponed in order to await the end of the event instead of facing the event. The continuous postponement of the summit is so ridiculous that it makes us sick.

When the Palestinian resistance heroically confronted the enemy and then withdrew in order to conserve its energy for a possible future confrontation, the Arab summit convened and simply proposed an inadequate peace plan, calling for the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon.

Then everything was over as far as our capitals were concerned. Thus, another document was added to the Arab summit archives and another piece of Arab territory was occupied.

The Arab states' handling of the Iraq-Iran war was also not much different. Despite what has happened, the Arab meetings, whether on the summit level or any other level, simply made vague calls for an end to this endless war. And, as an example of bad judgment, even the Arab summits themselves, which sometimes help a little, have now been stopped. An Arab summit was supposed to meet last fall. But here we are a year later without a summit. The preparatory meetings for this summit are being postponed, although the enemy forces are still in Lebanon and elsewhere, the Gulf war is still exhausting our blood and resources, and the Red Sea is still mined with mysterious bombs.

In view of this absolute inaction, it was the foreign forces that always came to consider and decide the issue of our threatened security. We must not forget that an enormous U.S. fleet is stationed at the entrance to the Gulf. We also must not forget that foreign fleets were stationed off Beirut and the Lebanese shores during the invasion and the siege and also afterward. And now, here are the foreign fleets coming to consider and decide the security of the Red Sea.

We must not forget. If the U.S. fleet has been stationed at the entrance to the Gulf for 4 years now, then its presence must not become part of the Gulf's existence itself. If the Red Sea could possibly continue to be mined, then the presence of the U.S. fleet in this sea must not become a part of the sea itself. It foreign fleets had decided the fate of the Lebanese capital, Beirut, then it must not become a custom for foreign fleets to determine the fate of our capitals.

But if the situation continues as it is; and if the events continue to show our inability to defend our existence, dignity, and strength, then we will not have any capitals, and there will be nothing but wars, invasions, and fleets along the periphery of our nation. Let our leaders wake up before it is too late.

Resistance Operation in Jerusalem Reported

JN081712 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] A group of our revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland have detonated a remote controlled high explosive charge under a Zionist military patrol while it was passing near Cinema (?Tac) in occupied Jerusalem. The explosion killed or wounded several Zionist soldiers. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation, but, as usual, refrained from noting his losses. He said that Israeli forces immediately besieged the area, waged an intensive search campaign, and arrested several citizens on the pretext of looking for our hero revolutionaries, who returned safely to their bases.

KUWAIT

Commander of 6th Brigade Interviewed

GF081927 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 7 Aug 84 p 4

[Interview with Brigadier General Muhammad 'Abdallah ar-Rassam, commander of the Armed Forces 6th Brigade, by *AL-ANBA'* correspondent Khalid az-Ziyab — date and place not given]

[Text] [Khalid az-Ziyab] What is your view of the military situation on the northern borders?

[Muhammad 'Abdallah ar-Rassam] The military operations are the outcome of the defense policy designed by the supreme political leadership. The military leadership must always feel a sense of political responsibility so that it can qualified to implement political decisions. About the military situation in Kuwait, thank God, it is excellent and stable, thanks to the wise policy of the political leadership, which tries not to conflict with anyone. But this does not prevent us from being in a state of permanent and total military preparedness and having units trained to fight and deal with all circumstances. The members of the Kuwaiti Armed Forces are trained for dealing with all circumstances. During Ramadan the Kuwaiti Armed Forces was fasting despite the heat and the dust, and they carried out their duty fully. This proves their capability, firmness, and endurance.

[Az-Ziyab] What areas are protected by the 6th Brigade?

[Ar-Rassam] Normally, the 6th Brigade is in charge of protecting the Jawan region up to As-Salimi line and the northern borders, the coastline along Bubiyan Islands, and also the Al-Warbah and Bubiyan Islands. But during extraordinary circumstances and when there is an emergency in the region, the brigade would be in charge of protecting only one of the above regions and would leave the rest to other forces.

[Az-Ziyab] What do the Kuwaiti forward forces comprise?

[Ar-Rassam] The 6th Brigade, infantry brigade, tanks and artillery which are supported by helicopters and the Air Force, which is an effective element in confusing and destroying the enemy in its regions of concentration.

[Az-Ziyab] What about the vanguard forces?

[Ar-Rassam] The vanguard forces which are at present near the islands and the northern borders are only concentration forces and their mission is to observe the coasts and the land and sea borders, to define the direction of any upcoming offensive, and to provide full information when the enemy launches an offensive. This allows the main fighting forces to be prepared to finally destroy the enemy. The border forces and the Air Defense have forward units which will provide us with sufficient information if any force makes a move toward us. The 6th Brigade's camp is located near the borders. The maneuvers and exercises which we are carrying out continuously have proved that the forces of the camp can be at the borders ready to fight in only 2 minutes.

[Az-Ziyab] Frankly, are the Kuwaiti forward forces in a state of maximum alertness?

[Ar-Rassam] The Kuwaiti forward forces are not at maximum alert, but they are in a state of readiness. There is a great difference between military alertness and military readiness. Alertness means that all the Armed Forces are in state of total mobilization, and we are not in such state, we are in state of constant readiness because we are near the borders and it is our duty to be in such a state.

[Az-Ziyab] What about the forward force or the forward positions? Are they in state of alertness or readiness?

[Ar-Rassam] The only force which is in state of alertness is the small early warning force, which is in the forward position of the Army.

[Az-Ziyab] As we are only a few kilometers from the battlefield, have you the right to open fire on anything that comes across, or is this decision bound by orders from higher authorities?

[Ar-Rassam] As long we are in a mobilization location, we open fire on any unidentified target if it does not react to our instructions. But it is not logical that we would open fire on any unidentified target without confirming its identity. In an alertness state, the soldiers of the forward lines have the right to shoot any unidentified object.

[Az-Ziyab] Have you any direct communications with the forward positions? Is there any early warning force?

[Ar-Rassam] Of course there is rapid communication around-the-clock with the centers. We have communication with all the units. The Air Force supplies us with information on the developments in the region. We can also communicate with the Air Force and the Air Defense bases, military camps and headquarters. We have made experimental communications tests and they proved successful.

[Az-Ziyab] What about the visit of the senior officials to the Kuwaiti forward forces?

[Ar-Rassam] The visit of the officials, particularly the visits of Minister of Defense Shaykh Salim as-Sabah and Chief of Staff Major General 'Abdallah Faraj al-Ghanim, have greatly raised the morale of the commanders, officers and soldiers. This will inspire them to feel the importance of the role they are playing in defending the homeland, and preserving its dignity and independence.

[Az-Ziyab] Do the draftees have a role in defending the borders?

[Ar-Rassam] The draftee is like the volunteer soldier. All are equal. The draftees are of great use because of their education. Some draftees have certified experience in all various fields. They are of great use to us, specially in matters which demand a certain level of education. Concerning the level of combat and mobilization, there is no differentiation between the volunteer soldier and the regular one.

AL-QABAS Reports Upcoming Moves on Gulf War

GF081907 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 7 Aug 84 p 3

[By 'Amid ash-Shanti]

[Excerpt] Sources learned that the visit of Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister, information minister, and foreign minister, to Damascus was successful, and that he held intensive discussions with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on the Iraqi-Iranian war and possible means of stopping the bloodshed between the two countries as soon as possible. This topic was the axis of his discussions with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi as well.

Arab sources have said that a high-ranking Syrian delegate will visit Tehran in the next few days, and that a Libyan delegate will also visit Tehran. These sources added that the discussions included practical steps that can be taken toward an Iraqi-Iranian agreement on a short truce as a first step. The sources expressed optimism on the possibility of solving the problem peacefully.

Sources expected a first meeting between the two countries to take place at an Islamic conference and supported what the British paper *THE OBSERVER* had published on this issue the day before yesterday. The sources continued to say that there will be a new Arab move in the next few weeks and that many of the Arab countries which had refused to mediate in any way have now agreed to play a role in solving the problem.

The sources stressed that Kuwait will follow up its contacts with its fraternal Arab and Islamic countries on intensifying the efforts to find a solution to the problem and to stop the Iraqi-Iranian fighting. They added that there is a possibility that Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and information minister, will make a tour of Arab and Islamic countries to follow up on this issue.

AS-SIYASAH Reports Arab Reaction to Red Sea Mining

GF081827 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 7 Aug 84 pp 1, 22

[Political editor report]

[Excerpt] An Arab military and technical source has told *AS-SIYASAH* that it is more likely that Israel is responsible for the Red Sea mines. He attributed this belief to the technical nature of the mines and the psychological and security impacts of this operation, which ultimately lead to achievement of the goal of the U.S. Government. This goal is to force the whole area into such a state of concern and chaos that it will request U.S. protection in one form or another.

Yesterday a Gulf political source denounced the mining of international waterways in the Red Sea and in the Gulf of Suez. In a statement to *AS-SIYASAH*, he categorized such acts as international terrorism. The source pointed out that these acts — no matter who is responsible for them — are designed to shake the stability of the region and to stir up confusion and disturbance in an international shipping route or in the trade and commercial circles in the countries, most of which are Arab, that border this sea. The source went on to say that this is also designed to aggravate the political situation in the region.

The source expressed fear over the possibility that these mines could reach the ports of the region countries becoming attached to ships or cargo or by being dragged under the water. He said that if such a situation should occur, God forbid, then a mine could explode in any of these ports, resulting in catastrophe and in extensive damages to various installations.

The source called for further alertness and stressed the need to intensify coordination among the ports of the region to avert sudden incidents. The source indicated that the vagueness of these operations and the lack of confirmed identification of the side responsible further aggravates the situation. This also accentuates the immensity of the responsibility of the region countries to protect their ports, installations and commercial fleets.

AL-QABAS Denounces Anti-Kuwaiti Terror Campaign

GF081849 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 7 Aug 84 p 1

[Editorial: "Always With the Right Despite the Hatred of Others"]

[Text] Under no circumstances will terror ever be a method of altering stances, principles and convinctions. This applies to terror directed against state institutions and establishments or against personalities and individuals.

The armed hostility which was carried out against some Kuwaitis in Spain yesterday adds a new crime to the chain of crimes which thus far has been unable to affect Kuwait and its Muslim and peaceful people. This is because the crime is a sterile means of dealing with Kuwait and the Kuwaitis. It is not a fit "language" for dialogue in political, national, and religious issues and stands.

It has been clearly proven that the principles on which Kuwait functions in its relations with others and in its fixed stands, which are based on justice in all issues, cannot undergo any alterations, withdrawals or concessions under the pressure of the terror to which Kuwait has been recently subjected both internally and externally. What has happened is the opposite: Kuwait has held on to these principles and has been able to demonstrate to all that the Kuwaiti people have become stronger than ever by standing together cohesively and insisting on marching along the right road.

It is time for those who bear grudges against the sons of Kuwait to realize the fruitlessness of all types of terror, destruction and crime, and that the only fit way to reach an understanding with us on any issue is dialogue, logic and wisdom. All else will not alter the principles and the stances we believe in as a Muslim people adhering to their religion, belief and Arabism, despite the grudges of others.

OMAN

Statement Issued on Iraqi Official's Visit

GF081427 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Press statement issued on the visit of Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim, in Salalah on 8 August]

[Text] At the invitation of Fahar ibn Taymur, deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs, Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim paid an official visit to the Sultanate of Oman from 7 to 8 August 1984. The RCC vice chairman was accompanied by an official delegation comprising Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs; 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd ar-Rahim, minister of transport and communications; and a number of other Iraqi officials. The RCC vice chairman was officially received upon arrival at the Salalah civil airport by Fahar ibn Taymur, deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs; Yahya ibn Mahfuz al-Mundhuri, minister of education and youth affairs; Muhammad ibn al-Zubayr, Sultan's adviser for planning and economic affairs; a number of high-ranking Omani officials; and the Iraqi ambassador to Oman.

On the morning of Tuesday, 7 August, His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id received at Al-'Husun Palace in Salalah Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim and the accompanying delegation. His Majesty Sultan Qabus expressed his joy and warm welcome to the Iraqi guest and his delegation and affirmed the profoundness of the fraternal relations between the two countries and the importance of strengthening and developing them in a way that serves the interests of the Arab nation.

Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim briefed His Majesty Sultan Qabus on the developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war and the importance of exchanging views particularly in this period when the Arab Gulf region in particular and the Arab nation in general are being threatened and there are direct or indirect attacks against their territories. During the meeting the vice chairman noted the preparations of Iraq and its Armed Forces for the defense of the security, independence and sovereignty of Iraq and the Arab nation. The vice chairman also explained the measures taken by Iraq to oblige the Iranian regime to accept the initiatives aimed at terminating the war and solving the conflict peacefully in a way that preserves the independence and sovereignty of the two sides.

His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id expressed his profound understanding of Iraq's national stances and lauded the steadfastness of the Iraqi people in the legal defense of their sovereignty and honor. The two sides also discussed the current Arab and international situation, particularly the situation in the Arab region, and affirmed their declared stances on the Palestinian cause and the support of the legal rights of the Palestinian people to return to their homeland and territories.

QATAR

Amir, Defense Minister Receive Saudi Official

GF081942 Manama WAKH in English 1630 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Doha, 8 Aug (WAKH) — H.H. the Amir of Qatar Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani received here today the assistant commander of the Saudi Air Force Prince Khalid ibn Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Qatari Crown Prince and Defence Minister Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani received a verbal message from Saudi Second Deputy Premier and Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz dealing with ties between the two countries mainly in defence and military fields. The message was delivered by Prince Khalid ibn Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today.

SAUDI ARABIA

Talks With Iraq's Ibrahim Open in Jidda

LD081459 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1416 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Jidda, 8 Aug (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz conferred today with Iraqi Revolution Council Deputy Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim.

The meeting was attended on the Saudi side by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the second deputy prime minister, defense and aviation minister and the inspector general; his excellency the minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, Ahmad Zaki Yamani; his excellency the minister of communications, Husayn al-Mansuri; the Foreign Ministry under secretary, 'Abd al-'Aziz Thinayyan; and the Saudi ambassador to Iraq, Tirad al-Harithi.

On the Iraqi side the meeting was attended by the minister of state for foreign affairs, Hamid 'Alwan; the minister of state of transport and communications, 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd ar-Rahim; Oil Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Samarra'i; and the Iraqi ambassador to the Kingdom, 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin.

INA Reports on Talks

JN081455 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1352 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Jidda, 8 Aug (INA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia received at his place of residence in Jidda today Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim and his delegation. They reviewed the advanced relations between the two friendly countries and the means of promoting them in the service of the Arab nation's causes, security and sovereignty. They also discussed developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war and the Arab situation, particularly in the Arab Gulf.

The meeting was attended by His Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation; Prince Badr ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy commander of the Saudi National Guard; Prince Sa'ud ibn 'Abd al-Muhsin, deputy governor of the Mecca area; Prince Turki al-Faysal; Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral affairs; a number of Saudi ministers and military and civilian officials; and the Iraqi ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

This afternoon, a closed meeting was held between His Majesty King Fahd and RCC Vice Chairman Ibrahim. His Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz attended the meeting. On another level, His Majesty King Fahd hosted a grand luncheon banquet in honor of the Iraqi delegation. The banquet was attended by the Saudi officials and the Iraqi Embassy staff.

Correcton to Likud, Labor 'Faces of Same Coin'

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Labor, Likud Called 'Faces of Same Coin'," published in the 7 August Middle East & Africa *DAILY REPORT*, page C 5, last paragraph, penultimate line:

...accurately implementing the old protocols of Zion....(changing word "oil" to "old")

Briefs

Aviation Accord With Thailand — Jiddah, Aug 8, SPA — Saudi Arabia and Thailand signed here today an accord on cooperation in the field of civil aviation. The agreement was signed by Saudi Second Deputy Premier and Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the visiting Thai Deputy Communications Minister Bunthiam Khemaphirat. After the signing ceremony, Prince Sultan said the accord was aimed at boosting bilateral relations between the two countries in the field of civil aviation and culture, provoding a good chance to people of the two countries to know each other. For his part, Khemaphirat said the accord would further enhance relations between the two countries in the fields of culture, information and tourism. He described the existing relations between Saudi Arabia and Thailand as "excellent and ever-growing." Khemaphirat arrived in Jiddah yesterday for a two-day visit to Saudi Arabia at the head of a four-member high-level delegation of Thailand's Communication Ministry. [Text] [Riyadh SPA in English 1231 GMT 8 Aug 84 Ld]

UAE

President Zayid Leaves for Turkey

GF081000 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0708 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 8 Aug (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, UAE president, left Abu Dhabi for Ankara this morning on an official 4-day visit to Turkey in response to an invitation from Turkish President Kenan Evren. The UAE president is accompanied by an official delegation which includes Shaykh Rashid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Umm al-Qaiwayn; Shaykh Hamad ibn Muhammad ash-Sharqi, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Al-Fujairah; Mr Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi, UAE president's representative; Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, petroleum and natural resources minister; Major General Hammudah ibn 'Ali, minister of state for internal affairs; Mr Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Ahmad al-Khazraji, minister of Islamic affairs and awqaf; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Zayid; Major General Hamid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, Umm al-Qaiwayn police chief; Mr Sa'id ad-Darmaki, chief of protocol; Mr 'Abdallah an-Nuways, information and culture ministry under secretary; Mr Nasir an-Nuways, finance and industry ministry under secretary and director general of the Abu Dhabi Arab Economic Development Fund; and Mr Khamis Bati ar-Rumaythi, director of UAE president's office.

Further Reportage on Visit

For Ankara reportage on the visit to Turkey of United Arab Emirates President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan as head of a UAE delegation, including the official talks, see the Turkey section of the 9 August Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

OPEC Delegation Leaves for Tehran

GF081020 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] An OPEC delegation, led by Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, left the country for Tehran at noon today on a visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran in the context of a tour of some OPEC member states. The delegation comprises Algerian Energy and Petrochemical Industries Minister Belkacem Nabi, and Venezuelan Energy and Mines Minister Arturo Hernandez who arrived in the country yesterday to join Dr al-'Utaybah. The delegation was formed during the OPEC conference in Vienna last month. It will hold talks with the leaders of the countries it will visit Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Libya and Indonesia, on means to maintain the stability of the oil market. The talks also will deal with means to bolster cooperation among the organization's member states with regard to maintaining the official price at $29 per barrel without submitting to pressures to reduce prices.

PDRY

Joint Ministerial Committee Issues Statement

GF081236 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Aug 84

["Text" of press communique issued on results of meetings of the Second Session of the Joint Ministerial Committee in Aden on 7 August]

[Text] In a truly friendly atmosphere and with a high feeling of national responsibility toward the issues of the unified Yemeni people, foremost of which is the issue of the unification of the Yemeni homeland, and within the framework of the sincere efforts exerted by the leaderships of the two parts of the homeland in all fields of cooperation and coordination for achieving the solid basis of the Yemeni unity, the Joint Ministerial Committee of the two parts of the homeland held its second session in the city of Aden from 6 to 8 August [dates as heard]. The session was chaired by Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers; Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, YAR prime minister and member of the Standing Committee; and with the participation of the brother members of the committee in the two parts.

The committee dealt with many issues on the agenda according to the tasks allocated to it in the agreement of Aden signed by the leaders of the two parts. At the beginning of its meetings, the committee reviewed the unionist activities and coordination and cooperation between the two parts since the first session of the Joint Ministerial Committee in Aden held from 29 November to 1 December 1983, as contained in the report submitted by the Secretariat of the Yemeni Council on the implementation of the decisions of the council's second session and the decisions of the first session of the Ministerial Committee.

In this regard the Ministerial Committee expressed satisfaction over the progress achieved in the fields of cooperation and coordination between the two parts and the efforts exerted previously by the concerned parties in the two parts. These parties asserted the necessity and the utmost importance for exerting greater continuous efforts on this road so as to lay a solid foundation for achieving the noble goals of our great Yemeni people. To relaize this, the Ministerial Committee has adopted many objective decisions and recommendations aimed at developing the fields of cooperation, coordination and at improving and developing the work of the Yemeni joint establishments. In this direction, the Joint Ministerial Committee studied the possibility of establishing joint economic projects between the two parts. It issued instructions to the concerned parties to begin initial studies.

The Joint Ministerial Committee expressed satisfaction over the efforts exerted in reprinting the joint Yemeni history book for the fifth and sixth grades. It stressed the necessity of using this book during the next academic year — 1984-85 — as a first step toward the unification of the curriculum in the two parts. The Ministerial Committee highly evaluated the results attained concerning commercial exchange, for which a protocol had been signed. The Joint Ministerial Committee also approved the document concerning the organization of the Secretariat of the Yemeni Council, pending final approval by the Yemeni Council during its next session.

While concluding its second session meeting, the Ministerial Committee has affirmed its solid determination to strengthen and develop coordination and cooperation in all fields between the two parts as one of the fruitful outcomes of joint meetings between the leaderships of the two parts of the homeland. The Ministerial Committee urged committees in various fields to implement accurately the commitments shouldered by the leaderships of the two parties and to exert continuous efforts to eliminate obstacles facing the coordination the unity cooperation process.

INA: USSR To Supply 'Naval Defense Means'

JN081244 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Moscow, 8 Aug (INA) — The USSR has agreed to supply the PDRY with naval defense means, including torpedoes, minesweepers and a ground-sea radar system for surveillance of its territorial waters. An informed source told INA here today that Yemeni Defense Minister Brigadier General Salih Muslih Qasim and his Soviet counterpart, Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov, reached a final agreement on this subject during their talks in Moscow yesterday. These talks also dealt with the recent mine incidents in the Red Sea and the Suez Canal.

The source added that preparatory talks were held in Moscow on 27 July between PDRY Navy Commander Major 'Ali Muhammad and Soviet Naval Forces Commander Sergey Gorshkov to determine the size of these means. The PDRY defense minister arrived here yesterday on a visit of several days to Moscow and Crimea, on the Black Sea.

Correction to Chairman Addresses Joint Council

The following corrections pertain to the item subheaded "Chairman Addresses Joint Council," published in the 7 August Middle East & Africa *DAILY REPORT*:

Page C 6, first paragraph, line three should read: ...of the homeland. I am pleased to extend to you a warm welcome in the name of your brothers in the southern part of the homeland where we meet again...(supplying dropped words)

Same paragraph, line eight should read: ...the two parts in various fields. This makes us...(rephrasing)

Same page, paragraph two, line eight should read: ...must coordinate the stand of the two parts of Yemen on national issues...(rephrasing)

Page C 7, second paragraph, line nine should read: ...the direction of strengthening Palestinian national unity and for maintaining PLO unity, and strengthening its alliance of struggle with Syria and all the factions of the Arab national liberation movements along the road of intensifying the liberation struggle against the various hostile plots and conspiratorial plans of the imperialist-Zionist...(supplying dropped words and rephrasing)

Last page, last paragraph, line eleven should read: ...for recognizing the inalienable rights of the...(rewording)

Mubarak Interviewed by AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI

NC081738 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Paris, 8 Aug (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has warned that the continuation of the present Arab differences will weaken the entire Arab nation. He called on the Arabs to quickly discard their differences, unify their ranks, and define the priorities of Arab action. In this connection, President Mubarak affirmed the need for the Palestinians to agree among each other and to coordinate with King Husayn because time is not in their favor. He warned that if the differences among the Palestinians continue, the Palestinian cause will be lost. He said that the Palestinian issue cannot be solved without the participation of the Palestinians and that no one can negotiate on behalf of the Palestinians. In an interview with the Paris-based Arabic language magazine *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI*, which will be published on Friday, President Mubarak expressed hope that the Arabs will as of now prepare for the post-U.S. election period so that they may face it united, while agreeing on substantive matters.

Concerning Egypt's stand on the Soviet proposal for holding an international conference, President Mubarak affirmed that Egypt welcomes any method or any formula on which the parties concerned agree.

Concerning the new Israeli Government, President Mubarak expressed the hope that the new Israeli Government will be strong and capable of adopting a sound decision that will help achieve comprehensive peace in the area, which Israel now needs more than ever before. President Mubarak affirmed that his stand on the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv is clear, firm and irreversible. It is represented in three points, which are: the need for reaching a timetable for the Israeli forces' withdrawal from Lebanon and for the beginning of the withdrawal; a solution of the Tabah problem; the reactivation of the Palestinian issue and [Israel] not obstructing peace efforts.

Concerning the Lebanese crisis, President Mubarak called on the Lebanese parties to quickly agree among themselves so that Lebanon will not be lost.

On the domestic level, President Husni Mubarak affirmed in his interview with the magazine *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* that raising the people's standard and employing the available resources to achieve this is a national action priority. President Mubarak explained that he seeks to establish a democratic life compatible with Egypt's stand and civilization in the area. He affirmed that the Egyptian democratic experiment is now safe, and that the people themselves will inevitably curb the opposition's overenthusiasm and straighten it out if it errs by pursuing a course of excesses. He affirmed that those who belong to the opposition are Egyptians first and foremost, and that they cannot possibly relinquish their homeland's supreme interest. He said that other opinions do not disturb us but are an indicator that the course of democracy is safe and sound. We decide what the majority of the people want.

Concerning what has been rumored about the extraordinary laws, President Mubarak affirmed that there are no extraordinary laws in Egypt. All of them have been issued in a constitutional way and with the approval of the people's deputies. He said that the Egyptian emergency law is less severe than similar laws which exist in all the countries of the world. In this connection, he affirmed that the Egyptian emergency law is not an extraordinary law for a time when terrorism has escalated and spread throughout the world. He said that we must protect our country from extremism and safeguard the bases of democracy from collapse.

President Mubarak affirmed that he has done and will do his utmost to combat corruption in a way that will not harm the public interest. He said that the violator must be punished, whether he is a minister or an ordinary citizen. President Mubarak denied what has been reiterated to the effect that he will soon lift the political isolation on some politicians and affirmed that this is the prerogative of the courts alone. Concerning the new Egyptian Government, President Mubarak explained that it was formed on the principle of the "right man for the right position." He affirmed that all those who left the Cabinet performed their duty in full.

Following is the text of President Husni Mubarak's interview granted to Dr Nabil al-Maghribi, chief editor of *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* magazine:

Al-Maghribi: Has the Palestinian question been put into the freezer pending the end of the U.S. elections?

Mubarak: The Palestinian question is primarily awaiting an agreement among our Palestinian brothers. I pray to God that the general interest transcends personal interests. No demand can be made for the Palestinians' participation in self-determination while they are divided and split.

Al-Maghribi: Are not the U.S. elections playing an influential factor in freezing the situation while efforts are being made in search of settlements?

Mubarak: Naturally, this factor cannot be ignored or denied. The United States is a superpower. Let us be frank. The elections are restricting and paralyzing the U.S. move on the question. This is a fact that cannot be overlooked. Everything is frozen and suspended at present as far as the U.S. role is concerned. In my view the current freeze is not bad because it would give time to our Palestinian brothers to reconsider their differences, agree among themselves, and agree with Jordan. All I wish is that we be prepared, starting now, for the U.S. post-election phase so that we can face it jointly and in agreement on substantive matters.

Al-Maghribi: Do you believe that the results of the latest Israeli elections and the new government will change the situation concerning a speedy emergence from the blocked tunnel?

Mubarak: I hope the new coalition government in Israel will be strong and capable of making decisions contributing to the achievement of a comprehensive peace in the area. I am one of those advocating negotiations with any government. Whether Shamir or Peres assumes office this is a domestic matter which concerns the Israeli people and does not concern us. The area needs peace more than at any time before. Peace is also in Israel's interest and not only in the interest of the Arabs. I have told this to the Israelis many times.

Al-Maghribi: What would you say now to the coming Israeli Government?

Mubarak: I would say these few words: I wish in advance to members of the government success in their work leading to the establishment of peace in the area and to giving each party its rights.

Al-Maghribi: Are you contemplating sending the Egyptian ambassador back to Israel soon and will the new Israeli Government have some effect on this matter?

Mubarak: My stand is clear on this matter. I recalled the Egyptian ambassador because of three points from which I will not retract whether or not the Israeli Government has changed. These points are: 1) A timetable for the withdrawal from Lebanon and the beginning of the withdrawal; 2) A solution to the Tabah problem; and 3) Revival of the Palestine question and no [Israeli] obstructions to the peace efforts. My stand is firm in this respect.

Al-Maghribi: French President Francois Mitterrand visited Cairo last month. Talks were resumed about convening an international conference to reactivate the Palestine question. What is new on the subject?

Mubarak: I did not discuss the subject of an international conference with President Mitterrand, but the talks dealt with general questions such as the outcome of his visit to the area and the relations between our two countries. In any case we have no objection to convening an international conference if all the parties concerned approve of this. What is the use or meaning of our approval if other parties disagree. Let us be realistic. One hand cannot clap.

Al-Maghribi: Moscow is calling for an international conference. Do you believe that those calling for this conference are serious this time?

Mubarak: You may put this question to those concerned. We welcome any method and any formula agreed upon by the parties concerned.

Al-Maghribi: Is there any specific Egyptian initiative being made behind the scenes toward Jordan and the PLO?

Mubarak: Our contacts with His Majesty King Husayn have not stopped nor have our contacts stopped with the Palestinians. We are seeking to bring about an understanding between the two sides for a move.

Al-Maghribi: The PLO's crisis is not over yet. Differences still exist. What is your comment on the continued division?

Mubarak: This is annoying. The Palestine question will be lost if this matter continues. I am saying it in absolute clarity that time is not in favor of the Palestinians if their current divisions continue. I have said it for the 100th time that they should come together and I repeat my call today: Come to an agreement so that you may coordinate with His Majesty King Husayn. Subsequently, we would be able to exert pressure to arrive at the negotiations table and solve the question. Confronting the demands of this phase and the question itself is not possible while the current division exists. I have told the Americans more than once in Washington and everywhere I visited that the Palestine question cannot be settled without the participation of the Palestinians.

Al-Maghribi: The division within the PLO has been going on for a long time. Do you believe that Yasir 'Arafat is ultimately capable of ending the crisis and asserting his leadership and views at the next Palestine Council's conference?

Mubarak: What must be said in this respect is that my heart as well as my affection and feelings are with the Palestinians. They are preoccupying themselves with minor issues. Is the meeting to condemn 'Arafat's visit to Cairo and has this become the most important subject? Has this become the topic in the question, whether or not 'Arafat visited Egypt? The basic question does not lie here but in solving the Palestine question and establishing the Palestinian people's rights. The Palestinians have spent or more correctly lost 1 whole year in futile arguments such as: 'Arafat was wrong; 'Arafat was not wrong in visiting Cairo. Is this the main question or the top priority which must be given the attention of our Palestinian brothers? I will say more than this: I am prepared to tell them for argument's sake that it was a wrong thing if this will stop them from wasting time in futile discussions and will allow or speed up their devotion to the Palestine question.

Al-Maghribi: If the Palestinian division continues — this is a mere assumption and we all hope that it will not happen — are you among those advocating Jordan's entering the negotiations alone?

Mubarak: No one can negotiate on behalf of the Palestinians. I have said this in the United States and have said it to King Husayn.

Al-Maghribi: Can you give us any hint about the Lebanese problem. There have been some positive signs of late. What is your impression?

Mubarak: It is not easy to give any definite answer to this question.

Al-Maghribi: You receive scores of reports and news about the development of the Lebanese crisis every day. What do they say?

Mubarak: I am praying to God that the Lebanese parties will reach an agreement before it is too late. The trouble with us Arabs is that we are divided and we keep fighting while Lebanon is facing a major threat. The same with the Palestinian issue. It is happening again with the Palestinians. They keep fighting each other and they resort to maneuvering, and this takes place at the expense of their cause itself. Again, I repeat, dear brothers, dear folks, get together, unite. Act like one man. Time is running out fast. I am also making the same plea to the Lebanese.

Al-Maghribi: Do you think that the specter of partition is still hovering over Lebanon at this moment?

Mubarak: If matters keep on going the way they are, let me put it straight, the country will be doomed.

Al-Maghribi: Then perils still exist in your opinion.

Mubarak: Certainly. How can perils disappear while conflicts are continuing and reconciliation is missing.

Al-Maghribi: The present truce is only temporary, you think?

Mubarak: What sort of truce is this. We hear everyday about explosions and death. I really wish Lebanon would pull itself together again. I hope God will make this wish true.

Al-Maghribi: What is your final word to the Arabs at the present phase?

Mubarak: I would say: Close your ranks and discard your differences. These differences will do the Arab people in, if matters do not change. I would also say: We should overcome our egoism and set aside our individual interests.

Al-Maghribi: Mr President, there is a tone of pessimism in your remarks. In your opinion, nothing is being done about the Gulf war, the Arabs are threatened by their internecine feuds, the Palestinian issue is jeopardized by the continued Palestinian rift, Lebanon is threatened, and the Israeli Government is not going to change its attitudes if...

Mubarak (interrupts): Yes. If the rift continues. If we do not change, Israel will not change its attitudes. Why should it? Israel is the only beneficiary from the rift. Why should Israel change its mind if the Palestinians themselves are busy discussing 'Arafat's visit to Cairo rather than the ways to restore their legitimate rights? It is not a matter of pessimism or optimism. It is a matter of tangible facts. The Arabs, including the Lebanese and the Palestinians, should set aside their differences, agree on the priorities of this phase and set to work. The Arabs have not so far agreed on their priorities. I am not exaggerating if I tell you that, personally speaking, I do not know what priorities the Arabs do have. I am really at a loss. Do you know these priorities?

Al-Maghribi: Would you not make some initiative to end the inter-Palestinian schism, for instance?

Mubarak: Any initiative that we would make will come under verbal fire. We are not sparing any effort to give momentum to the Palestinian cause. We will always welcome any Palestinian who comes to Cairo.

[Interview shifts to domestic issues without apparant transition.]

Al-Maghribi: Mr President, you speak about vituperations. Is there a red line for these vituperations which must not be crossed? In other words, under what circumstances can the present democratic experiment be reversed or receive a setback so as to defend the public interest?

Mubarak: I do not wish at all that we go backward because this will be a setback. Therefore, if certain excesses occur, I must contact the parties and speak with many persons and tell them about these excesses' harmful results and their negative effects on the democratic course. We will speak as brothers and compatriots because we are all responsible for our country. Work in this field is not confined to the president but is the responsibility of every citizen who cares for his country's interest. I add that we must all work together to build for the future. Every citizen must feel this common responsibility toward his country.

If we are working for the future — the future of our sons and grandsons — it is our duty to search for the soundest course, and we must continuously correct this course. This work must be done gradually. The experiment at present is better than it was in the past. There is no doubt about this. Take, for example, the party newspapers. In the beginning, they used to resort to sensationalism by exaggerating or blowing things out of proportion. We had to face this with calm nerves, and reason returned. This is the nature of development — gradual development — which is achieved by strengthening the democratic atmosphere.

Some newspapers said that the recent people's elections were rigged. However, besides what these newspapers wrote according to their whims, can anyone say that Egypt saw better elections in the past than the recent ones? They spoke about rigging. This is not true. But for the principle of the list [mabda' al-qa'imah] which we adopted, these people [the opposition] would have received less seats. They spoke about rigging. Why don't they resort to court. The courts exist, why don't they resort to them? The court is the referee among the parties. Courts are above individuals who level accusations and pronounce sentences at the same time.

Al-Maghribi: What development do you now seek in the democratic course? What is the democratic model President Mubarak seeks to achieve in the future?

Mubarak: I seek a democratic life compatible with Egypt's stand and civilization in the area. I am against stereotypes. I do not search for the American, English or French model to apply in our country. These models themselves are developing and are putting limits to prevent excesses that harm democracy.

In the United States, a person can get great compensation if his rights are violated. Excesses cannot hide in the robe of freedom and democracy. Hence, our democratic course has begun to develop. Development is a constant process that must take into consideration our Arab Islamic reality. We have our own customs and traditions, and our customs are different than those in foreign countries.

Briefly, I am for a responsible freedom, curbed by conscience. For example, cursing others and levelling accusations at them is not freedom. There must be limits to everything, including freedom — the freedom of everyone without exception. My freedom cannot be without limits, and so is the freedom of the other citizens. The public interest sets these limits. It is no secret that we are benefitting from the positive points in the world's experiments in our search for a better way which is suitable for our country.

Al-Maghribi: What dangers are threatening the democratic experiment in Egypt, or do you believe that this experiment has reached the shore of safety?

Mubarak: I believe that the experiment has reached the shore of safety. Let me reveal to you that despite the differences among the parties on several topics, there is a general understanding among all of us on the supreme national interest. Those who belong to the opposition parties are Egyptians first and foremost, and they cannot possibly relinquish this interest.

Al-Maghribi: And the extremist opposition?

Mubarak: The people themselves will appraise the extremist opposition and they will inevitably check it should it be wrong and commit transgressions. The people will appraise everything. The democratic dialogue remains the soundest course in this respect.

All parties in Egypt including the NDP, Al-Wafd, the National Progressive Unionist Grouping, and the Liberal Party are constantly making internal reviews for the sake of Egypt whose higher interests we are all working for. If transgressions take place there is no reason for anxiety because all democratic experiments have experienced transgressions which can be rectified by dialogue thus contributing to achieving the demands and reforms called for by the majority of the people.

Al-Maghribi: Is President Mubarak regarding himself as an umpire among all these parties?

Mubarak: To a large extent.

Al-Maghribi: Then do you not believe that the political or electoral equation could have changed had you not assumed at the same time the leadership of the NDP? It is said — this is not a secret — that the people had voted in the recent elections for President Mubarak more than for the NDP. What is your comment? To what extent could the results of the elections have changed if you were not at the head of this party?

Mubarak: My leadership of the party might have had some influence in this respect. I do not deny this. I can say with my usual frankness that I will put up with the rights of many if I was certain that all the people had voted for the NDP. The electoral procedure in our country is not so simple. It is affected by many factors. Nervousness still plays a part and my presence in the party also has its effect or supporting role. My frankness in confronting issues without sensitivity might have helped a candidate's popularity in his constituency. Yes, the electoral votes are still affected by nervousness. However, as an Egyptian citizen regardless of my responsibilities as president I have been devoting all my time to the general interest of all the citizens without exception.

Al-Maghribi: Some people outside Egypt have their fears about this new experiment by saying that multiparty system and the freedom of the parties to issue their publications might cause you personal hardships in the future. Some others even say that the Egyptian people have not reached the stage of complete political maturity to absorb developments in the democratic process. What is your comment?

Mubarak: We have political maturity to a great extent. With respect to the hardships, every democratic experiment will inevitably face difficulties which will continue. Is the U.S. experiment for example free of difficulties? This is democracy. It is not a carpet laid with roses and jasmins. No. Moreover, allow me to tell you that 100 years of democracy with all difficulties and problems is less trying than 1 day of dictatorship.

I repeat, who can deny the hardship of democracy and who can at the same time deny the positive aspects of democracy, including the liberties, and the freedom of expression and the freedom to express opposition. We see this in our national papers. There are those who approve of a specific project and others who disagree. This is democracy.

Let us take for example the subway project which is currently being implemented in Cairo. Experts had spent 10 years studying this project. Many views appeared calling for the immediate implementation of it to solve the transport crisis. When we started implementing it, opposition views appeared warning of the dangers of the plan. The authorities concerned have welcomed these views and studied them to determine the negative aspects of the project or the dangers of it if any.

The phenomenon of support and opposition also appeared with respect to the overpasses. Some say that these bridges were a catastrophe that failed to solve the traffic crisis. Others say that the bridges are liable to collapse while we know that our engineers are the best, most highly qualified and experienced in technology. Nevertheless, we were not annoyed by these views. We discussed them and made a decision on them. The question governing our options is: What is it that the majority of the people want? This question leads to another more delicate and specific question: Would the project, any project we intend to implement, lead to the desired goal?

The traffic crisis, for example. Is not the situation now with the overpasses better than in the past 3 years? During the last 2 years we built 13 bridges. The plan provides for building 18 other bridges in addition to new cities to ease the housing crisis and congestion in Cairo.

Therefore, the opposition views do not disturb us but it is an indication that the democratic process is in good shape.

Al-Maghribi: Are you not disturbed by the many reports published in opposition papers about scandals in the government? Some papers, Mr President, did not hesitate to refer to you in some cases?

Mubarak: I am not annoyed or hurt at all. In respect to the hints about me, this matter does not excite me as long as it does not go beyond certain limits. I do not believe that it has gone beyond these limits. You refer to scandals appearing in the opposition papers which are trying to create sensationalism for the purpose of selling more copies. My answer is that the appropriate authorities do investigate all the complaints. If mistakes or transgressions are discovered, the investigation will take its course to rectify the mistake.

Al-Maghribi: Do you personally investigate specific cases?

Mubarak: In exceptional cases because certain issues cause an uproar and much is being said about them without evidence or proof. These issues do not merit attention. For example, it is said and rumored that the state has been conducting an investigation into the wife of a minister. I had heard this before and I asked the minister about it directly. It is my habit to also ask many quarters to form a complete and comprehensive idea about a specific subject. I asked the minister about the repeated rumors concerning his wife's activity. It transpired that the subject did not exceed the limit of inheritance. If you had inherited two pieces of land from your parents is it permissible for others to spread ouy rumors? Would this mean exploiting one's influence or stealing? No. Therefore, why all this uproar? Shortly before the recent Cabinet reshuffle, rumors appeared in some papers regarding excluding the minister but I do not heed such rumors. However, I do appraise what has been reiterated and I ask many official quarters and citizens before I issue my verdict or form an idea on a specific subject.

Al-Maghribi: Can it be said now that Egypt has joined the club of countries believing in human rights? Are human rights secured and fully safeguarded in Egypt?

Mubarak: Have you personally noticed any attack on human rights? If an attack was made on your rights you have recourse to justice to restore your rights. I ask you whether you have heard that I had once interfered in the affairs of the judiciary. Have you ever heard that I repealed the court's verdict?

Al-Maghribi: I know that you refused to receive an envoy from Lebanon to intervene in the case of Lebanese banker 'Ali al-Jammal who is currently accused in Cairo of banking offenses?

Mubarak: This is correct. I refused to discuss this subject which the judiciary decides on. I refuse to discuss with anyone a subject connected with business or with the courts' jurisdictions.

Al-Maghribi: Can it be said that Egypt has deleted from its electoral dictionary the 99.99 percent proportion?

Mubarak: The results of the recent parliamentary elections are here before you. I may tell you a secret that prior to my election as president I was given the election results and the proportion of support was very high. I said: Brothers, there is no need for such a high proportion. They answered: But these were the figures, Mr President, which reflect the real situation. I said that the people have a complex about the high proportions, reduce them and I will not object if you announce that I have obtained 60 percent only. I was, however, interested in respect to the recent People's Assembly elections that all the parties should be represented in this Assembly. Nevertheless, they spread rumors that the president was seeking to admit the Labor Party into the Assembly and when this party failed to win a seat through the elections the president admitted it through appointment. Such reports were not based on facts. I was interested from the very beginning that all the parties be represented in the parliament. The question to me is not that of preferring the Labor Party over the Al-Wafd or another party. All parties are Egyptian and are supposed to work for the public interest. I welcome anyone making proposals in this respect.

I am not imposing my view on anyone. Likewise, I refuse to let others impose their views on me. We are human beings having our conflicts and inclinations and we are not infallible. Let us discuss matters openly and seriously before the people to achieve the public welfare.

Al-Maghribi: Mr President, don't the extraordinary laws run counter to the democratic process?

Mubarak: What do you mean by the extraoridnary laws? There are no such things as extraordinary laws in Egypt. Have they not been approved by the People's Assembly in a sound way in accordance with the Constitution? What is extraordinary about them?

Al-Maghribi: But the extraordinary laws do exist?

Mubarak: They [presumably the opposition] call these laws by this name. It is the deputies who approved these laws about which you are speaking. I did not issue these laws. I ask again: What is extraordinary about them? Furthermore, where is the danger in all this?

Al-Maghribi: Is there an intention to get rid of these laws soon?

Mubarak: Can you mention to me the laws which are bothering you?

Al-Maghribi: For example, arbitrary arrest in some cases without resort to court.

Mubarak: This is another topic. The emergency law exists in all the countries of the world without exception. The emergeyncy law in Egypt is even less severe than all other emergency laws. I have read the emergency laws of France, Germany, the United States and Britain and I have found out that our emergency law is much less severe.

If you compare the Egyptian anti-terrorism law with the German anti-terrorism law, you will find that our law is nothing compared with the emergency law in Germany. The interior minister there can arrest a person for a period of a full 6 months without consulting the public prosecutor or seeking the opinion of the court. No one has the right to object to this arrest. Therefore, the Egyptian anti-terrorism law is not an extraordinary law at a time when terrorism has escalated and spread through all countries of the world.

Furthermore, when and how did we use the emergency law? Did we enact it to arrest some people for political or non-political reasons? Mention to me just one case in which we used the emergency law. Mention to me just one case in which, for example, we prevented a newspaper from publishing in implementation of the emergency law?

For 60 years or 70 years before the revolution, they applied an emergency law 100 times more severe than the present law. The emergency law before the revolution allowed the arrest of a person for 6 months and sometimes 1 year and 2 years without the court's knowledge. The period of detention under the present emergency law does not exceed 15 days after which the detainee is released if no charge is filed or if there is lack of evidence.

However, we must protect our country from extremism and safeguard the bases of democracy from collapse. Naturally, I am against extemporary steps, such as stating, for example, that I will abolish the state of emergency immediately and then only to find myself in a situation in which I will be obliged to reinstate the emergency law but with stricter measures. I want the citizens to get used to steady and constructive steps on the road to the future and for the public interest.

Al-Maghribi: The elections in Egypt, democratic openness, your emphasis on the importance of the other opinion, your assertion of the independence and integrity of the court, and the defense of human rights — are not these surprises which might embarrass or disturb some states in the region?

Mubarak (interrupts): I surprise no one.

Al-Maghrabi: Perhaps they are surprises that depend on a quiet style far from the "shock" policy?

Mubarak: Where are these surprises precisely?

Al-Maghribi: The multi-party system, the freedom of the press for the opposition parties, for example.

Mubarak: The experiment existed in the past. What I am now doing is developing it — reformative development that deals with new problems and protects the public interest. I will give you this example: When you need to irrigate a piece of land, you must open the sluice gate to allow the necessary water to flow. If the opening of the sluice gate is bigger than necessary, the water will flood the piece of land and you will reap nothing. Therefore, development must be gradual and rationalized through channels that permit quiet flow which allows us to solve our problems instead of drowning them with new problems.

Al-Maghribi: But the course of democracy might threaten several Arab states with the "disease"?

Mubarak: I have nothing to do with this subject. We have neither diseases nor microbes.

Al-Maghribi: Mr President, democracy for several Arab regimes is regrettably considered a "microbe" which must be fought. Perhaps the danger of the movement of the "microbe of the disease" from Egypt to these regimes causes them embarrassment or anxiety.

Mubarak: Each state has its own system. I don't interfere, thank God, in the internal affairs of any state. I will not do this. So no one should expect to hear that Egypt has instigated a regime against another or has used funds for this purpose. My concern is my country and the service of the public interest according to the sound course of which the people's overwhelming majority agrees. No and a thousand times no to interference in the domestic affairs of others. This is my motto and I will not give it up.

Al-Maghribi: Advocates of the one party system say that to have democracy you must have a population that is politically mature, which is not the case in some countries. Do you agree with this opinion? Do you believe that democracy would be hard to apply outside Egypt because of a lack of political maturity?

Mubarak: Egypt, everyone knows, is a country of ancient civilization. The first government in the region was established on the banks of the Nile. This is a truth. The ancient Egyptians were pioneers in the spheres of administration, medicine, engineering and construction. They have been ahead of the whole world in many fields, so, it is not extraordinary that we would be ahead of the region in the sphere of democracy. As for the rest of the countries in the area, I think they can make a start for now and until things get better.

This is one observation. The other observation is that none of these countries can open the door [for democracy] overnight. A gradual approach is a must in this regard. As I said, it is up to every country to set the appropriate date for its internal reforms, for its desired programs and for the democratic process that befits its aspirations. Egypt is not and will not impose its system on any other country.

Al-Maghribi: How about political maturity?

Mubarak: You will have to address this question to the brothers concerned. I hate to say something that can be interpreted as interference in the brothers' affairs. I have friends and brothers in every Arab country, with no exception — even in Syria, which is calling us names nowadays. God knows why. There has been some appeasement with Syria. Then, to my amazement, the insults cropped up again. They would say: Camp David, Camp David, on end. And I say and repeat: What we did was to restore our land, and to seek peace. Nobody has ever stood for the Palestinian issue [words indistinct] more than we did. No one has ever spoken out on behalf of the Palestinians and on every international forum more vehemently than we did. I have expressed my opinion to President Reagan inside and outside the White House. He knows my stand very well. The statements which I made during my last visit to the United States have astonished some parties here. But I said: This is nothing new, I have already defined my position to President Reagan in our private talks.

In brief, I am in favor of clarity. The straight line is the shortest distance between two points. There are other aspects in ths subject that I would rather not reveal or talk about for the moment.

Al-Maghribi: An-Nasirism, As-Sadatism. Is it time we start talking about Mubarakism?

Mubarak: I would like to know what they have in mind when they talk about An-Nasirism and As-Sadatism, and what you mean now when you talk about Mubarakism.

Al-Maghribi: What is meant is a certain political approach or theory with definite characteristics. You have come out with new slogans that may, if taken together, constitute a distinct approach for dealing with issues and events. These slogans include your call for security, stability and development, your rejection of the policy of electric shocks and your call for the steady approach to democracy and for nonintervention. Do you think that this reflects the traits of a particular school of political thought?

Mubarak: To establish a sound democracy and to protect the security and stability of the country are not easy goals. War is sometimes an easy matter in comparison. I still would discourage talk about Mubarakism or any such thing. I am not interested in what you call things, but in the objectives which enlist the blessing of the masses. In short, I am a citizen elected to the presidency by the people. Thereby, I am working according to my conscience to serve the country and the people as long as I am in office. Yes, I am one of the people and I am working for the people and this satisfies me.

Al-Maghribi: What about the day-to-day problems suffered by the Egyptians; namely, the problems of inflation, traffic, housing, unemployment, migration, bureacracy and deteriorating public services. How are you going to face these problems?

Mubarak: Let me tell you this. The problems existing today are not the child of yesterday or last year. They have emerged over many years, maybe 50 years.

Al-Maghribi: The people, nonetheless, expect you to get rid of these remnants and to awaken them from their prolonged sleep. Do you believe that it is possible now to open these files and to deal with them with the necessary seriousness and speed?

Mubarak: Let us be fair. I spare no efforts in this regard. We have adopted a plan for this purpose. God knows that had it not been for this plan, matters would have deteriorated and water would have become scarce while the poor drainage would have become worse and the standard of several services would be have been affected.

We have exerted and continue to exert efforts for the development of housing, roads and electricity. Are you aware that air conditioners alone need 1 billion kilowatts? Nobody expects me to push a button and solve all the problems in a day and a night, or in 1 or 2 years or even in 5 years. There are no magic solutions to problems that are not confined to Egypt alone. Our capabilities are not unlimited. Let us be frank and tell the people the truth. The state's budget amounts to 9.8 billion pounds. This is our revenue, including revenue from oil and the Suez Canal. How are we spending this money?

The sums allocated for the development of drainage, housing, bridges, tunnels, water networks and electricity and for investments are excluded from the general budget. Salaries alone amount to approximately 6 billion pounds, in addition to repayment of loans, interest and the funds allocated to subsidize commodities and supplies.

Nevertheless we are going ahead with the implementation of the development plan with success, God willing, in spite of various difficulties which restrict the movement of the budget. Magic solutions are not available. Let us say things clearly and frankly. Why conceal the facts from the people? The problem is not confined to Egypt. Take the dollar, for example. All the countries are now suffering from the high rate of the dollar and have failed to confront this. Do they expect Egypt alone to resist or fight the dollar?

Al-Maghribi: The state can, however, fight those trading with the dollar — the black market traders or the economic Mafia.

Mubarak: The Mafia and corruption are not confined to Egypt. However, since we are a developing country, the talk about corruption has been exaggerated.

Al-Maghribi: What would President Mubarak do to end corruption?

Mubarak: I am doing my utmost in this respect so as not to harm the public interest. This is my principle, which must be known to all. Is corruption nonexistent in the Soviet Union? The socialist and the Western countries are all alike. Is there no corruption in the United States? Or do they want the people in Egypt to turn to infallible gods? We are human beings, and greediness is in man's nature. This applies to all countries and nations. I do not wish to discuss real corruption in a well known country. Talk of corruption in our country is nonsense, meaning in milliemes. Yes, in milliemes against that abroad. However, you journalists are concentrating on Egypt and are exaggerating reports about Egypt and qualify the reports about corruption in other states.

Al-Maghribi: They concentrate on Egypt perhaps because, as the proverb goes, Egypt is the mother of the world.

Mubarak (wholeheartedly laughs): If this is the case, then help Egypt instead of attacking it, instead of instigating people against it, instead of seeking to distort the reputation of its democratic experiment. You shout and say forgery, forgery, stop corruption and so forth. I wonder where the forgery is and what sort of corruption calls for exaggeration by the media. Show me one specific corruption case deserving this media campaign. Once one reported a case of exploitation of influence and authority. The public prosecution investigated the case and found it to be true. The matter was rectified. We are not embarrassed by announcing the facts, uncovering mistakes and punishing the culprits.

Al-Maghribi: Even if a minister was the violator?

Mubarak: A violator must be punished, whether he is a minister or an ordinary citizen. There is no difference between one person and another. You know that some ministers have left the government.

Al-Maghribi: Did they leave in the recent Cabinet reshuffle because of excesses of this kind?

Mubarak: No. I did not mean the recent Cabinet reshuffle, nor violations of this kind. Ministers sometimes are replaced because of shortcomings or acts not acceptable by the general trend or to give new faces a chance. Therefore, there is no need for interpretations that are nothing but tendentious rumors.

As usual, the interpretations have been many regarding the new Cabinet. They said and circulated that the president is in disagreement with this minister or that or that a minister left the presidential palace with a grim face. This is groundless. I say it very frankly. They write many things that are not true. For example, they wrote that the president will at any time lift the political isolation on the May group — 'Ali Sabri, Sami Sharaf, Sha'rawi Jum'ah, and others. This provoked a reaction to a proposal which I did not make.

The lifting of political isolation is the prerogative of the court alone. This is what happened with Fu'ad Siraj ad-Din. He asked me to lift the isolation on him. I answered him: You can go to court. This is what he did, and he won the case. Why don't the others, like him, resort to the court? If I lift the isolation in accordance with a special amnesty, which is my constitutional right, rumors will circulate anew: The Nasirites are coming back, nationalization threatens Egypt's economy, etcetera. No. There are courts. Let them alone decide on this. Frankly, I have not thought of this subject. Someone asked me to give him a diplomatic passport, and I obliged. These are formalities to which I attach no importance. Will someone abstain from travelling if he does not carry a red diplomatic passport?

Al-Maghribi: What standards did you use in forming the new government, led by Kamal Hasan 'Ali? How were the ministers changed or moved from one ministry to another?

Mubarak: The main principle was to select the right man for the right position. This is a general principle, and not confined to the recent Cabinet reshuffle. There is also the fact that individuals use up their energies in time, and Egypt needs steady change. Other standards include a good reputation, experience, and efficiency. I have appointed some ministers whom I do not know in person. I have asked everywhere about their capabilities and have interviewed them. Still, I am only human and I can make mistakes. Also, there are some individuals who are incapable of developing. This is nothing shameful. I am grateful to the services they rendered to the state while in office.

Take for instance Dr 'Izz al-Din Hilal, the former oil minister. He spent 11 years in office, during which he served with utmost dedication. Nobody can deny this. However some people still spread rumors about him. The man is very clean. 'Izz ad-Din Hilal used to introduce oil experts and cadres to me, saying: Mr President, Egypt has become very rich with capabilities in the oil sector. This used to make me happy. I was happy because he was training cadres. The official who cannot strengthen the aptitude of his personnel is harming the public. This man shouldered heavy responsibilities for years on end. One day he told me that he could not continue to shoulder this responsibility because he needed to rest. This man carried out his duties in full. He left his post with my gratitude. I presented him with a medal. I usually do not give medals on such occasions. I have also paid tribute to all the ministers who left the government in the last reshuffle. They have all fulfilled their duties.

Al-Maghribi: You say the elections were successful and flawless. These elections were supervised by former Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha. Abu Basha, nevertheless, was transferred to another ministry — local government — which is less important than the Interior Ministry. What is your explanation? The opposition has interpreted this in various ways.

Mubarak: Some people cannot understand that transferring a minister from one post to another might be done to benefit from the minister's experience and ability, and to develop this post more effectively. Some people believe that Abu Basha's transfer to the Ministry of Local Government was connected with the elections. This is wrong. Hasan Abu Basha managed the elections satisfactorily and sincerely. I transferred him to the Ministry of Local Government because he is aware of its problems and already was familiar with them when he assumed his responsibilities in the Interior Ministry. Some people who are accustomed to viewing and analyzing matters according to their moods believe the Ministry of Local Government is secondary. No. Presently, I attach great importance to local government issues. I am confident that Hasan Abu Basha will succeed in his new tasks.

Al-Maghribi: What are the priorities of the current phase?

Mubarak: They are to raise the people's standard of living and to utilize all available resources for this purpose. These are the top priorities in the current phase and in every phase. Then other issues follow: Arab and African questions and particularly the Palestinian issue. Name a single international conference at which I did not defend Palestinian rights. Frankly, I defended the Palestinians despite the fact that they did not stop insulting us. One of our brothers strongly criticized us once. He came to greet me during my stay in New York. I told him reproachingly — it is not my custom to conceal my disappointment — what was the matter? In spite of the insults and criticisms, I spoke about the Palestinian question at the United Nations with complete frankness and clarity. We will continue based on this principle and we will not deviate from it.

Abu Ghazalah Says No Mines in Red Sea

NC081545 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1325 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 8 Aug (MENA) — Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, has stated that we have not yet agreed with the U.S. side on the date for the arrival of the minesweeping helicopters to the Gulf of Suez. In a statement today, Abu Ghazalah said we asked the United States to send these helicopters but we do not know yet the date of their arrival.

Abu Ghazalah reaffirmed that there are no sea mines now in the Gulf of Suez or the Red Sea. A number of Egyptian minesweeping naval units are currently cruising the Red Sea and the Gulf of Suez to follow the situation, he added.

'Abd al-Majid Views Relations With Israel

NC081140 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1040 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Paris, 8 Aug (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid affirmed that Egypt will not be lenient toward any action that might harm Iraq's territorial integrity and independence. Egypt, he added, believes that Iran insists on setting unacceptable conditions on the reactivation of negotiations.

In a statement published by the newspaper *LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS* today, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said there is no doubt that Iran shoulders the responsibility for the continuation of the Gulf war. He called on Western countries to contribute toward ending this war rather than toward promoting it by supplying Iran with arms.

Continuing his statement, the foreign minister said that Egypt is prepared to talk with any Israeli Government that accepts Egypt's conditions. He reiterated Egypt's conditions for the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv, saying: We have three conditions — the Israeli Army should withdraw from southern Lebanon unconditionally; a substantial effort should be made to resolve the Palestinian problem; and moves should be made to solve the issue of Tabah, which is still occupied by Israel.

Touching on the Palestinian problem, Dr 'Abd al-Majid reaffirmed in his statement that Israel's interpretation of the Camp David accords, particularly concerning the recognition of the Palestinian people's rights, is negative and unacceptable. The foreign minister pointed out that Egypt believes it is impossible for negotiations be held without the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He said Israel made a grave mistake when it invaded Lebanon. He added that Israel is paying the price every day and is facing an extremely organized resistance.

On the Egyptian-French initiative, the foreign minister said that Egyptian and French efforts have contributed toward encouraging the United States to participate in the negotiations. [sentence as received]

Abu Ghazalah, Turkish Defense Minister Hold Talks

NC081320 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Cairo, 8 Aug (MENA) — A round of Egyptian-Turkish military talks was held at the Armed Forces headquarters today. The Egyptian side was headed by Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production. The Turkish side was headed by Defense Minister Zeki Yavuzturk, who arrived in Cairo yesterday. The Egyptian and Turkish defense ministers will hold a final round of talks on Tuesday [14 August], during which they will sign a military cooperation protocol.

Ankara Reports on Talks

TA081754 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] National Defense Minister Zeki Yavuzturk has begun his official contacts in Cairo, the capital of Egypt. This morning, he met Egyptian Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah. The two countries' defense industry and cooperation issues were discussed at the meeting. Yavuzturk also laid wreaths this morning at the tomb of the unknown soldier and at the grave of the late president, Anwar as-Sadat. The Turkish defense minister toured certain antitank missile factories in the afternoon. Yavuzturk will go to Alexandria tomorrow where he will visit military installations. His visit to Egypt will last 7 days.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Assails 'Terrorist' Israeli Leaders

PM081129 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 6 Aug 84 p 5

[Muhammad Al-Hayawan "World of Love" column]

[Excerpts] Every nations has its heroes. A nation's ideals are upheld by its youth, who represent its noble character. For example, the heroes of the United States are those who established the principles of freedom, democracy and human rights and those who were creative and inventive and contributed to the development of mankind. The heroes of Europe are the philosophers of freedom, socialism and the arts. The heroes of the East are its intellectuals and poets and the heroes of the Arabs are those who established justice and showed noble character. The Arab heroes are 'Umar, 'Ali, Al-Ahnaf bin Qays, Hatim at-Ta'i, and Sinaws.

Let us come to Israel and see who are its heroes, to know what Israel is and the principles on which it is established. The Jewish heroes are Delilah, who seduced Samson, and Sarah, who saved the Jews from captivity, each of them using their femine wiles to the maximum.

Israel's heroes and leaders in contemporary history are a bunch of terrorists. Every one of them presents himself to the Israeli people as a butcher who has let Arab blood. The more his hands are stained with blood, the greater hero he is; the darker his history, the greater hero he is for the Israeli people. Every one of them presents history to the public as a leader of terror, because that is the only thing acceptable in Israel. All the Israeli leaders of the past 32 years have been members of anti-Arab terrorist gangs. Their feats in the eyes of Jews are the massacres which began at Dayr Yasin. Their heroes are Begin, Shamir, Dayan, Peres and Levi. Those who worked in politics, like Abba Eban, stand in the second rank.

The recent elections have confirmed this. The hero there is the one who is bloodiest against the Arabs. For this reason all the advocates of peace in the elections failed and Kahana, who wants to destroy the Al-Aqsa Mosque, won. This is Israel, its history and its heroes, which are all pointers to its future.

Saddam Husayn Chairs Second Cabinet Meeting

JN081108 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1048 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Aug (INA) — President Saddam Husayn today presided over a Cabinet meeting for the 2d consecutive day. During the meeting, which lasted about 6 hours, the Cabinet discussed the topics on its agenda and adopted the necessary measures.

The meeting was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, RCC member and vice president of the republic; the RCC members; the Ba'th Party's Regional Command members; the presidential office director; the ministers; and other state officials.

Communique No 1,551 Reports 7-8 Aug Operations

JN081625 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Communique No 1,551 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 8 August 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our heroic Armed Forces continue to affirm their capability while fighting the battle of truth and justice against the forces of the tyrant Khomeyniite clique. The results for last night and today are as folows:

1. Using artillery, our forward units pounded a number of enemy positions, troop concentrations, and vehicles east of Basra, killing two and destroying one vehicle and one infantry position.

2. Using various types of weapons, one of our forward units pounded enemy positions and troop concentrations in the central sector, killing one and destroying one infantry position, two hardware stockpiles, and one observation post.

3. An artillery attack was mounted on selected enemy targets in the Maysan sector, inflicting on thee enemy losses in men and equipment.

4. One weapon emplacement and three infantry positions were destroyed in the Shatt al-'Arab sector.

5. The spiteful Khomeyniite clique's forces shelled the Basra suburbs and the township of (Biyarah) in the Halabijah district with heavy artillery both in the morning and at noon today. A number of gardens were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 August 1984

Maritime Target Hit in Khark Island Area 9 Aug

JN090618 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
0600 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

If God helps you, none can overcome you. [Koranic verse]

With God's help and with great success, a successful air strike was carried out against a very large maritime target in the Khark Island area at 0550 today. The target was accurately and effectively hit. All our daring aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God. By this, the soldiers of leader Saddam Husayn reaffirm their unlimited capability of imposing complete control on Iranian ports in the immortal Arab Gulf waters. It is God who grants victory. 9 August 1984.

Khark Island Siege To Continue, Escalate

JN090658 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0610 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Aug (INA) — A local newspaper has stated that the siege Iraq is imposing on Khark Island and other important Iranian ports is not a temporary tactic, but will be maintained as long as the war lasts.

Under the headline "The Decision Rests With Iraq Alone" *AL-JUMHURIYAH* said that the siege will continue, intensify and escalate until it attains all its objectives.

The paper added that Iraq alone will decide when, how, and where to strike and that it possesses sufficient weapons and the necessary weapons to bring the siege to its decisive end.

The paper said that the dubious interpretations and predictions made by suspect quarters every time the strikes against maritime targets in the exclusion zone in the Gulf are suspended for a few days are merely frustrated attempts to appease these quarters.

The paper stressed that the successful strike against a maritime target the day before yesterday reaffirms that the siege will continue, proves that Iraq is determined to escalate it, and that Iran is completely impotent in avoiding its results.

The paper concluded by saying that disappointment will be the lot of the Iranian enemy, its allies, and all the suspect quarters which back it, and that this disappointment will climax when Iraq deals its decisive blow and rubs the noses of the aggressors in the mud of final defeat.

Press Statement on Ibrahim Visit to Oman

JN081707 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1500 GMT 8 Aug 84

["Text" of press statement issued 8 August on RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim's visit to Oman]

[Text] At the invitation of His Highness Fahar ibn Taymur, deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs in Oman, 'Izzat Ibrahim ad-Duri, Iraqi RCC vice chairman, paid an official visit to the Sultanate of Oman from 7-8 August 1984.

The Iraqi RCC vice chairman was accompanied by an official delegation comprising Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs; 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd ar-Rahim, minister of transport and communications; and a number of Iraqi state officials.

The RCC vice chairman was accorded an official welcome at the Salalah civilian airport. He was received by Fahar ibn Taymur, deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs; Yahya ibn Mahfuz al-Mundhiri, minister of education and youth affairs; Muhammad az-Zubayr, the sultan's adviser for economic planning affairs; a number of senior Omani officials; and the Iraqi ambassador accredited to Oman.

During the meeting [as heard], the RCC vice chairman stressed the development of Iraq's Armed Forces and the preparations to defend the security, independence, and sovereignty of Iraq and the Arab nation.

He also explained the means which Iraq is pursuing to force the Iranian regime to accept the initiatives aimed at ending the war and solving the conflict by peaceful means in a way that would safeguard the independence and sovereignty of both sides.

His Majesty Sultan Qabus expressed his deep understanding of Iraq's pan-Arab stands. He praised the steadfastness of the Iraqi people in their legitimate defense of their sovereignty and dignity.

The two sides reviewed the current Arab and international issues, particularly the Arab situation. They reaffirmed their clear position on the Palestinian cause and their support for the legitimate Palestinian people's right to return to their homeland and soil.

RCC Ratifies Economic Agreement With Greece

JN081613 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The RCC has ratified an economic cooperation agreement between Iraq and Greece. The ratification of the agreement falls within the framework of the two governments' desire to strengthen their economic and trade relations, to develop their friendly relations, and to increase the participation of Greek establishments and companies in implementing Iraqi development projects.

Poland's Jablonski Sends Cable to Saddam

JN081616 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Cable from Henryk Jablonski, chairman of the Polish Council of State, to President Saddam Husayn — date not given]

[Text] His Excellency Saddam Husayn, President of the Republic of Iraq.

I am pleased to send to Your Excellency on behalf of the Polish people and the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic and in my own name, heartfelt greetings and gratitude for your congratulations on the national day of the Polish People's Republic. Please accept our good wishes for you and the friendly Iraqi people.

[Signed] Henryk Jablonski, chairman of the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic.

AR-RA'Y on Israeli Role in Red Sea Mining

JN091044 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0515 GMT 9 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Israel Prepares for a Role in the Red Sea," *AR-RA'Y* says: Within the framework of developments in the wake of mining the Red Sea, the so-called Israeli security organs have issued a statement saying that Israel cannot remain silent if the mines jeopardize free navigation to Elat. Prior to this, the Israeli Government hinted that it was following the explosions with deep concern. Now, the Israeli media is highlighting the story about an Israeli cargo ship that was delayed for more than 48 hours at the entrance of the Red Sea before resuming its voyage to Elat.

These statements, hints, and news reports indicate that Israel is preparing to use the mines issue to play a security role in the Red Sea. It is not unlikely that Israel will demand to participate in the minesweeping operations with the Egyptian, U.S., British, and French ships. Israel will thus exploit the mining and the minesweeping operations in such a way that will entrench its naval presence there.

AR-RA'Y adds: We must warn against responding to any Israeli attempt in this respect. The Arab countries bordering the Red Sea must cooperate with Egypt to form an Arab operations room in order to fight the mining of the Red Sea and to supervise the removal of the mines instead of holding separate contacts with foreign or Eastern countries and therefore allowing this issue to cause international polarization in the region. Israel, which is seeking quick benefit from the problem and is threatening to take action in the Red Sea, must be viewed with suspicion. Israel's terrorist role in the region, its plan to push the Palestinian issue to the bottom of the list of priorities, and its preparation for playing a role in the Red Sea in one way or another, are not signs that exculpate it from the crime laying the mines.

AR-RA'Y concludes: Perhaps the Arabs will strive to control the problem and prevent Israel from exploiting it for its own ambitions and evil schemes.

New Israeli Settlement Near Hebron Criticized

JN082135 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
2100 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Tel Aviv — Within the framework of Israel's expansionist policy, a number of Jewish families began building a new Jewish settlement in the vicinity of Hebron in the occupied West Bank today. Israeli trucks promptly transported prefabricated houses for building this settlement on Hebron's Tal ar-Rumaydah. Israel radio, which reported this news, said that the Jewish families started to build this settlement following Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens' approval of this settlement in the occupied city of Hebron.

Karami Makes Statement on Cabinet Meeting 8 Aug

NC081234 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1135 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] A few moments ago Prime Minister Rashid Karami made a statement after the lengthy Cabinet meeting held today. In his statement, Karami points out that the Cabinet has decided to abolish the contact lines in most areas of the mountain in accordance with a security plan it approved. The Cabinet has entrusted the Lebanese Army with this plan's implementation. He said the Army needs approximately 10 days to begin implementing this plan. He also said the Cabinet has formed an administrative committee to deal with the issue of the contracted teachers. This committee was given a month to work out a plan to solve this issue. The Cabinet also discussed the situation in southern lebanon and certain issues, primarily that of the kidnapped people. The following is a recording of Prime Minister Karami's statement:

[Begin recording] [Karami] The Cabinet met and discussed the security plan for the mountain. It was decided to abolish the contact lines of 'Alayh-Suq al-Gharb, Bsaba-Al-Ma'rufiyah, and Ash-Shuwayfat-Kafr Shima. The Damascus road and the coastal road from Al-Madfun up to Al-Awwali will be reopened. The Army and Internal Security Forces have been entrusted with implementing this plan and with holding contacts with the parties concerned to deal with existing difficulties. As for the issue of the contracted teachers, a committee from the Civil Service, the Central Inspection Directorate, the Education Directorate, and the Secondary Education Directorate will make the arrangements and will take the necessary measures to implement the law on confirming the teachers. The committee will complete its study on this issue within 1 month. As for the kidnapped people, the Cabinet discussed this issue. I appeal to the relatives of the kidnapped people to place their confidence in the committee and cooperate with it. We will support all the arrangements conducive to the release of the kidnapped people.

[Unidentified reporter] You spoke about difficulties the Army will have in holding contacts with the parties concerned. Can you give us a clear idea of these difficulties?

[Karami] The plan has been implemented in Beirut. Everyone knows that there are several problems that the concerned parties occasionally must overcome as long as we are in the process of drafting a reconciliation plan to be implemented by the government's forces. This is very simple.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, when do you expect the Army to abolish the contact lines in the mountain?

[Karami] I believe the Army needs 10 days to begin implementing this plan.

[Unidentified reporter] Did the Cabinet discuss the situation in the south and the current practices?

[Karami] There is no doubt that southern Lebanon is a constant concern in our hearts. Every time we discuss these issues, we give utmost attention to liberating the south.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, will there be another special Cabinet meeting?

[Karami] The Cabinet will hold a special meeting Tuesday to discuss political issues, particularly those of southern Lebanon.

[Unidentified reporter] Regarding the mountain plan — deployment will extend to the heart of the mountain to ensure the return of the evacuees. You did not mention this.

[Karami] It is well known that the overall plan is for the entire mountain. I have repeatedly said that the plan will be implemented in stages. We still maintain this attitude. [end recording]

More on Cabinet Meeting

NC081605 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1405 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Excerpts] The Cabinet today approved a security plan for the mountain in principle with the Army to begin enforcing the plan within 10 days by removing confrontation lines in 'Alayh, Suq al-Gharb, Bsaba, Ma'rufiyah, Ash-Shuwayfat, and Kafr Shima. The Cabinet postponed study and approval of the defense law until its next meeting.

President al-Jumayyil chaired the meeting at B'abda Palace, which was attended by Prime Minister Karami and all Cabinet members except Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran, who is still sick. Part of the meeting was also attended by Army Commander General Michel 'Awn; Chief of Staff General Nadim Hakim; the director of Army operations, Colonel John Farah; and the deputy chief of staff for operations, Colonel Muhammad 'Adnan Khalil. The Cabinet discussed in the presence of the military officers proposals to introduce a security plan for the mountain area. Different views were presented on ways of achieving security in the mountain. Discussions on these issues continued until 1300 when the military officers left B'abda. The Cabinet continued its deliberations by studying other issues on the agenda.

President al-Jumayyil opened the meeting by congratulating Minister Junblatt on his birthday and by welcoming Minister Pierre al-Jumayyil back to the Cabinet meetings which he had missed in recent weeks due to illness. The president also wished Minister 'Usayran a speedy recovery.

President al-Jumayyil stressed the need for Cabinet differences to be kept within their context in order to avoid a disruption of national salvation efforts. The president urged the Army Command to assume its full responsibility, especially with respect to soldiers who had not yet reported to duty.

President al-Jumayyil stressed the need for the suburban development committee to launch an energetic program and proposed that it be allocated 10 million pounds to launch the vital programs needed in the suburb. The Cabinet approved this recommendation. President al-Jumayyil is scheduled to meet tomorrow with the president of the committee, Colonel Mahmud Abu Darhum.

President al-Jumayyil opposed an opinion of the civil service board and requested Cabinet approval for the compensation of engineers and employees of autonomous agencies. The proposal was also approved.

Reliable sources said that Cabinet discussions were positive and described the meeting as very positive.

The Cabinet also took action on a number of bills involving muncipalities, education, boards of directors of cooperatives, salary increases for security personnel, and reconstruction in downtown Beirut. The Economy Ministry was authorized to conclude an agreement to transport wheat by sea to Sidon.

The Cabinet also decided to open talks with France on the amendment of the existing Lebanese-French agreement.

Junblatt Rejects Army Entry Into Mountain

NC090538 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0300 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Text] Walid Junblatt, minister of public works and tourism, last night rejected the Army's entry into the mountain. He asserted that he agrees with reopening the international highways and crossing points and demanded that the Army be sent to the south to liberate it from the Israeli occupation.

Minister Junblatt affirmed that his alliance with Minister Nabih Birri will continue until the just demands are met and until the south, western Al-Biqa', Rashayya, and Hasbayya are liberated.

Junblatt Addresses Rally at Army Barracks

NC090739 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Speech by Walid Junblatt, minister of public works, transportation, and tourism, at popular rally in the Popular Army barracks on the anniversary of the formation of the Popular Liberation Army, martyr Kamal Junblatt's forces, on 8 August — recorded]

[Text] The leader, martyr Kamal Junblatt, taught us [applause] that the road of struggle, the road of attaining national and Arab demands in Lebanon, the road of achieving equality and justice, and the road of liberating Lebanon from exploitation, feudalism, hegemony, and foreign alliances involves struggle and martyrdom. It also involves continuing the armed popular struggle, which is the only thing certain to achieve continued stability in Lebanon. Kamal Junblatt and many other martyrs fell along this road. Hundreds of martyrs will fall until social justice, Arabism, and democracy are realized. Hundreds of martyrs will fall until Lebanon becomes an independent, sovereign, democratic, secular, and Arab country. [applause]

Today we celebrate this honorable and glorious anniversary, the anniversary of the heroes in the Popular Liberation Army. We also celebrate the perpetuation of the principle that the battle has not ended yet. If we temporarily have become part of the legitimate regime, it does not mean that we have accepted or will accept this regime — a regime of concessions, exploitation, sectarianism, foreign alliances with Israel, the United States, and others; a regime that has always wagered on foreigners to achieve its objectives. We have provisionally accepted a solution, but this does not mean that we will relinquish our demands, or our weapons. As I already said at the first popular rally in Salima, in Btikhnay to be more precise, the weapons of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], are the guarantor of its existence, and these weapons will continue to protect the PSP against this regime's Army and against its alliances. We will not hand over these weapons until the just popular demands are realized in Iqlim al-Kharrub, Beirut's southern suburb, the mountain, and 'Akkar. We will not hand over these weapons until the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya are liberated. [applause and cheers]

Comrades in the Popular Liberation Army: You are the nucleus of the future and you are the nucleus of the future Lebanese Army. We hope the Lebanese Army will become a real popular liberation army.

Until now, regrettably, this Army has been the army of a regime. We do not want a regime army. We want an army for the people and not a tutelage over the people. We want an army that serves the people, and not an army that represses the people. This Army will not enter the mountain. We will only accept the reopening of the crossing points and the international highways. We will not permit this Army — which in the past has killed hundreds of children, women, and elderly in 'Bay, Kafr Matta, and Ash-Shahhar. We will not accept the fact that the Army will go without being brought to account or being punished. We will not accept the fact that the Phalange military instrument again will come to our areas in peace after we have militarily vanquished it in Ash-Shahhar, in the southern suburb, and in other areas. [applause] Let this Army go to the south if it really wants to liberate the south. This Army, however, will not enter the mountain. We will accept a cease-fire on the mountain by opening the 'Alayh road and the Suq al-Gharb road; but not a single foreign soldier will tread on our land. [applause] It is a sacred land. We have defended this land from Al-Burjayn to Suq al-Gharb, to 'Alayh, to Ash-Shahhar, and to the southern suburb. We have defended this land with hundreds of martyrs. We will not accept the fact that the Lebanese regime will again enslave and kill the people. [applause] I say this to you, to all, and to the press. We are not afraid of anyone. We only fear justice and righteousness. [applause] I say this so some of you will not think that our entry into the Cabinet — the entry of Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri in the Cabinet — is a solution at the expense of the people's rights. Never. The PSP, the Amal Movement, and the sincere national forces will continue to struggle for the sake of the people's rights. They will continue to struggle to liberate the south, Rashayya, and Hasbayya. [applause] They will continue to struggle to abolish sectarian concessions, and finally and completely achieve Arabism.

Some of the Cabinet members who were in the opposition in the past thought — I am only saying this as a reminder — some thought they had become legitimate.

Never; the only legitimacy is that of the people. If some of these people have forgotten that the Cabinet is the result of a grinding war, let them remember that they attained their posts and positions after hundreds of people were sacrificed and after the southern suburb, the mountain, and Iqlim al-Kharrub were destroyed. Let those who are members of the Cabinet today, and who belonged to the opposition yesterday, come to their senses and return to the national ranks before it is too late. The people's sword will continue to be brandished on all those who are neglecting yesterday's promises — the promises of achieving real equity.

I say this because during the Cabinet meetings in B'abda, I noticed some hesitation, if not some retreat, by Cabinet members.

The PSP and the Amal Movement, the PSP and Nabih Birri [applause] will always remain in the same trench.

We remind those defeatist and forgetful people — I believe that they pretend to forget — that the people's sword will reach everyone, and that the Popular Liberation Army, the Amal Movement, and the sincere national forces will keep their weapons until the just national demands are attained, and until the south, Rashayya, Hasbayya are liberated. Peace be with you. [cheers and applause]

'Official Source' on New Leftist Front

NC081730 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] An official Lebanese source today said that it is up to the Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SSNP] to elect a chairman of its choice, but if this chairman wants to take part in Lebanese political life, then he should be Lebanese.

As it is, the source said, the SSNP chairman is Syrian, and hence, he does not have the right to meddle in Lebanese affairs, to receive the congratulators in Beirut and Damascus, to join the so-called National Democratic Front, or to be affiliated with any party in Damascus. The source warned some Lebanese against the consequences of encouraging polarization in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, the same source considered the formation of the new leftist movement called the National Democratic Front — which comes in the aftermath of Polyakov's talks in Damascus and Beirut — an evidence of the existing schism between Junblatt and Birri, and between the Communist Party and the Amal Movement.

The source also called attention to the fact that Muhsin Ibrahim, leader of the Communist Action Organization, is not taking part in this new movement despite his dynamic role in the previous leftist movement.

Hezbollah Starts Radio Station, Weekly Newspaper

NC091044 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 6-12 Aug 84 P 19

[Text] The Moslem militia Hezbollah has stepped up its activities in the field of information. Besides starting a radio station in the Al-Biqa' Valley, whose broadcasts can be heard over a large part of Lebanese territory, it has begun publishing a weekly, *AL-AHAD*, which is distributed in the Al-Biqa' and in Beirut's southern suburbs.

3 Killed, More Than 20 Injured in Beirut Blast

NC090800 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Three people were killed and well over 20 others were injured in an explosion that occurred at 0930 in the vegetable market in the Al-Bastah area on Al-Ma'mun Street. Security reports say an explosive device was placed in a garbage dump. A number of adjacent buildings and nearby parked cars were damaged in the explosion.

VOAL Reports 2 Iranian Embassy Guards Wounded

NC081301 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Beirut has stated that it was subjected to an attack this week. A statement issued by the embassy said that unidentified persons fired an Energa shell, which fell near the embassy and slightly wounded two embassy guards.

Gunfire Reported in Mountain Area; No Casualties

NC081308 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The completion of the removal of earth barriers in Ra's an-Nab', the museum area, was deferred until tomorrow, Thursday, because of some obstructions which halted the operation today. Since this morning the Army engineering units have been detonating unexploded mines and shells in the same area.

At 1500 an RPG exploded in the air over the Al-Basta al-Fawqa area. No damage was caused. Gunfire was opened in the mountain area from Bsaba on Al-Ma'rufiyah at 1440. There were no casualties.

Israeli Patrol Attacked; 2 Wounded in Sidon

NC081323 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1230 GMT
8 Aug 84

[Text] It was reported from the south that national resistance fighters carried out a new operation against Zionist occupation forces at 1455 today. The reports say an explosive device was detonated as a Zionist patrol was passing through Sidon. Two members of the patrol were wounded. The occupation forces sealed off and searched the area.

Resistance Fighters Attack Militias in South

NC081634 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1405 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The national resistance forces today attacked a position for the so-called army of the south near Jibshit, Haruf, and Ad-Duwayr crosspoints in the An-Nabatiyah District. Mortars and machine guns were used during the attack which lasted for 15 minutes. The Israeli forces and Lahd militia cordoned off the area and carried out mass arrests of the citizens. The Israeli forces also sealed off Jibshit, arresting a number of its inhabitants who were transferred to the Regie Building — headquarters of the Israeli command in An-Nabatiyah.

Meanwhile, tension was still prevailing in Jarju' where the Zionist authorities carried out attacks for the past 2 days.

Sources from Sidon indicated that armed elements today occupied the office of the *AS-SAFIR* newspaper.

Meanwhile, eyewitnesses from Libbaya in west Al-Biqa' indicated that Israeli collaborators had assassinated Sergeant 'Ali Husayn 'Aql of the Lebanese Army.

Khaddam Receives USSR's Vladimir Polyakov

JN081825 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] At 1800 today, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry's Near Eastern Countries Department.

Soviet Ambassador in Damascus Vladimir Yukhin and Polyakov's delegation attended the meeting. During the meeting, the talks revolved around the current situation in the region.

Ash-Shar' Confers With Polyakov

JN081848 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' this afternoon received Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry's Near Eastern Countries Department, who is currently visiting Syria.

The meeting was attended by the head of the Foreign Ministry's East European Department, the head of the International Organizations Department at the Foreign Ministry, and the Soviet ambassador in Damascus.

During the meeting, the talks revolved around the current political situation in the region and issues of mutual interest.

Ash-Shar' stressed the importance of strengthening and developing the existing friendship and cooperation relations between Syria and the Soviet Union. He also expressed Syria's welcome and support for recent Soviet proposals and for their positive principles and elements that respond to the just Arab demands.

Polyakov also expressed the Soviet leadership's appreciation for Syria's important role in the region and its firm confrontation of the imperialist and Zionist plans and the unilateral and partial settlements aimed at spreading U.S. influence over this region.

Al-Asad Receives Polyakov

JN091132 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad, at 1230 today, received Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the USSR's Foreign Ministry's Near Eastern Countries Department. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar', and USSR Ambassador in Damascus Vladimir Yukhin.

Khaddam Receives Maltese Foreign Minister

JN081812 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] At 1930 today, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Maltese Foreign Minister Trigona and his delegation. During the meeting, the talks dealt with the current situation in the region.

Ash-Shar', Trigona Hold Talks

JN081921 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' and Maltese Foreign Minister Trigona held a round of talks at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this evening. The session was attended by Sulayman Haddad, director of the Western Europe Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Fathi al-Masri, director of the International Organizations Department at the ministry. The talks revolved around the nonaligned Mediterranean states conference that will be held in Malta in mid-Septemebr 1984 and the topics on the conference's agenda. The talks also dealt with the relations between Syria and Malta and the means of promoting them in all fields.

Maltese Foreign Minister Departs

JN090838 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0815 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Text] Maltese Foreign Minister Alex Trigona left Damascus at 1000 this morning at the end of a 3-day visit to Syria. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar'.

KUNA Reports PLO Delegation's Talks in Damascus

LD081708 Kuwait KUNA in English 1556 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus, Aug 8 (KUNA) — A PLO Executive Committee team conferred here Wednesday with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam on Palestinian-Syrian relations in general and Syria's relations with the mainstream Fatah commando movement in particular. A leading PLO official said that the team grouping Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajjani and Hamid Abu Sittah further discussed means of salvaging these relations from the current crisis.

A review of the outcome of current inter-Palestinian dialogue for the restoration of the PLO unity was further made, he added. The source underlined that the delegation held a series of meetings with secretaries of Palestinian resistance movements present in Damascus to discuss a formula for an agreement between all Palestinian organizations to settle differences and approve a date for the convening of the PNC session in its capacity as the most prominent PLO legitimate bodies authorized to look into differences within the organization.

Current efforts focus on holding meetings of the PLO and the Palestinian Central Council, a liaison body between the committee and the PNC, to precede the PNC session for setting the agenda, the source highlighted. He added that the Palestinian officials' talks in the Syrian capital will hopefully lead to a visit by a delegation of the Fatah Central Committee to Damascus.

Ad-Dajjani and Abu Sittah are independent members of the PLO Executive Committee and maintain close ties with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The committee's latest Tunis meeting approved expediting the team for Damascus to hold talks with Syrian officials and leaders of Palestinian movements.

AL-BA'TH Links Red Sea Mines to U.S. Designs

JN081122 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 8 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "From the Enemy Concentrations in Al-Biqa' to the Red Sea Mines," *AL-BA'TH* says: The strangling crisis that is overwhelming the Zionist entity and threatening it with bankruptcy is no longer the only issue being analyzed by observers. These obsevers emphasize that this artificial entity obtains the means of its existence from the U.S. aid being flooded to it at the expense of the U.S. people and other people whom the U.S. Administration robs every day.

The Zionist entity's crisis is associated with a political crisis that clearly surfaced before the general elections and worsened after the results of the elections were announced. This crisis is becoming insolvable as consultations begin to form a new government. We in this struggling country have previously announced that we are not concerned with any formula of any Israeli Government. We reaffirm what leader Al-Asad has said: There are no differences between the political organizations in the enemy's entity, because they all work for strengthening Israel militarily for the sake of aggression and expansion.

AL-BA'TH continues: By this reaffirmation at this particular time, we want to point out two important points. The first is the daily talk preoccupying observers about the Red Sea mines. The second is the news agencies' reports about the Zionist enemy's concentrations in Al-Biqa'. The United States initially concentrated its attention on the Red Sea, but soon afterward it began coordination with its NATO allies on the one hand and Israel on the other. According to the news agencies, these sides agreed to send more military aircraft to the region under the pretext of removing the mines.

AL-BA'TH wonders: Do they really want to clean the Red Sea of its mines? It answers: We think that it would be quite naive to believe this trick, in which we can only see a pretext for intensifying the U.S.-NATO presence in the area. Our conviction is bolstered by the timing of the Israeli concentrations in Al-Biqa'. These concentrations were announced while the world's attention was directed at the Red Sea mines. Therefore, we can say that there is a link between the timing and the objective. This link is a common denominator between the United States and Israel — the denominator of exploding the area militarily in an attempt to rescue the Zionist entity from its impasse and to undermine the victories Syria has scored and is still scoring over both the United States and Israel. It seems that the preparatory stages of aggression have been completed, and nothing is left except the implementation. Syria will then know how to teach the aggressors a lesson that will certainly not be new to them.

AL-BA'TH on U.S. Militarization of Arab Gulf

JN090926 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Press review]

[Text] *AL-BA'TH* writes about mining the Red Sea and about U.S. militarization of the Gulf. In its editorial today, *AL-BA'TH* asserts that before the general elections, the U.S. Administration always chooses the most sensitive areas in the world to escalate tension to serve that administration's president, his election plans, and his plans beyond the election. Because Reagan greatly depends on the monopolist companies for his reelection and because Zionism controls these companies in the United States to a large extent, Reagan has therefore once again chosen the Middle East as the arena of tension and exacerbation to ignite it and thus serve his reelection interests as well as Israel's aggressive objectives and ambitions.

AL-BA'TH continues: With the complete coordination of and in absolute cooperation with Israel and NATO, the Reagan Administration has chosen the Red Sea region as the arena of tension. After its past failure, Washington is trying once again to close the Arab Gulf region both militarily and politically and thus serve its far-reaching objectives under the pretext of sweeping mines from the Red Sea — mines which have not yet been officially confirmed as being planted in that area. All indications show that the United States and Israel are the only sides behind this act of piracy, especially since the United States has long been planning to impose its military hegemony over the Gulf region. Saddam's crazy war is facilitating the implementation of U.S. plans in region. It seems that U.S. militarization of the Gulf region has begun, as we notice that many U.S. and NATO ships and planes have already arrived in or are on their way to the region.

The paper adds: The new U.S. military and political moves in many Arab areas have clear objectives. These moves aim at besieging the Syrian stand which threatens the U.S. and imperialist interests in the region. We must not forget that the United States and Israel are trying to avenge what happened to them in Lebanon, where U.S. policy sustained a large defeat thanks to the wise policy led by struggler President Hafiz al-Asad. The United States, which has completely depended on Israel in order to tame this or that Arab side if it felt that they constituted a threat to its interests or aggressive plans, has practically asserted that Israel is no longer capable of carrying out this mission — at least toward Syria. Hence, the Reagan Administration is trying to use intensive military and political activities to besiege the Arab Syrian attempt to create strategic balance in the region. The current political dialogue being held among the various Israeli parties is as dangerous as the intensive U.S. move. We must consider this dialogue as part of this move, especially since Israel is trying to rid itself of the strangling crises it is facing.

AL-BA'TH concludes: In any case, we in Syria will remain as we have always been — more alert and vigilant toward U.S. and Israeli moves both here and there. We will continue to exert efforts to be stronger to confront any emergency.

Alignment, Likud Resume Talks on Unity Government

TA090644 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Text] The Alignment and the Likud are resuming their talks about the establishment of a national unity government. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that in these talks, Alignment leaders will not discuss the question of who is to head the government. It was decided in consultations that only the guidelines for forming a joint government should be discussed. In the Alignment's opinion, it is possible to form a national unity government for a set period of time, a government which will focus on agreed solutions to economic problems. Yesterday the finance minister talked with the head of the Alignment Economic Committee.

The Alignment believes that if the talks about a national unity government fail, the Likud will not be able to establish a government. The Likud persists in its demand that the question of who will head the government be discussed in the talks with the Alignment.

A senior Likud minister told our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer that prior to the 10th Knesset's dissolution, the Likud and Alignment leaders had reached a secret agreement on matters of security and politics, which could enable the parties to cooperate in a national unity government. The senior minister said that a working paper was prepared at the time and that this paper, which figures from both parties have, may be used as a basis for discussion. The minister stressed that the Alignment and the Likud reached an agreement on settlement policy as well.

Yosef Berlin, aide to the Labor Party chairman, denied the existence of such an agreement. There were no negotiations between th Alignment and the Likud after the talks on a national unity government failed 10 months ago, and there is no agreed working paper, he said.

Negotiations Conclude

TA091015 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Text] The meeting of the Likud and Alignment leaders has ended. The issues which were on today's agenda were mainly political: settlements and the Lebanese war, among other things. Our correspondent Hayim Zissovitch reports from the King David Hotel that the question of who will lead a national unity government was not discussed today.

At the end of the 3-hour discussion, the sides agreed to meet again this coming Sunday.

Likud on National Unity Government Talks

TA081143 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The Likud is insisting on its right to discuss with the Alignment all issues, including the question of who would lead a national unity government. This was stated by Deputy Prime Minister David Levi following consultations by the Likud ministers. Minister Levi rejected the arguments that the Likud is trying to foil the establishment of a national unity government led by the Alignment.

However, he said that the Likud will continue its contacts with its coalition partners and with other factions, just as the Alignment is maintaining contacts over the establishment of a narrowly-based government, despite the fact that it has been authorized to establish a broadly-based government.

Our correspondent Arye Golan reports that the Alignment-Likud negotiations will resume tomorrow morning. The meeting will focus primarily on foreign affairs and security, settlement, and ways to withdraw from Lebanon. The two parties' parliamentary teams will meet tomorrow afternoon in order to prepare for the convening of the 11th Knesset [on 13 Aug].

Sharon Supports Settlement, Likud-Led Government

TA081433 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Minister Sharon thinks that the Likud ought to work for the establishment of a unity government headed by Yitzhaq Shamir. At a consultation of the Likud ministers, Sharon said a unity government should be opposed to any possibility of territorial compromise, and should continue with the settlement impetus throughout Eretz Yisra'el. In his opinion, a unity government should also adopt the autonomy plan, and negotiations with Jordan — if there are any — should be conducted only in accordance with that plan.

Our correspondent points out that there is a very great distance between the basic lines drawn out by Minister Sharon and what the Alignment refer to as red lines.

NRP Rejects Alignment Jordan, Settlement Plans

TA081521 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The National Religious Party [NRP] has rejected the Alignment's proposal on the opening of negotiations with Jordan without preconditions, and that decisions on the establishment of new settlements be made by a majority of two-thirds of the Cabinet members. At a meeting between the leaders of the Alignment and the NRP, Shim'on Peres also suggested reviving the Golda Me'ir formula of holding a referendum at the conclusion of negotiations with Jordan. He also promised that a government led by him will not evacuate existing settlements. However, as we said before, Minister Yosef Burg — speaking on behalf of the NRP — rejected the proposals regarding the settlements and the negotiations with Jordan, and suggested that the focal point of next year's endeavors should be to improve Israel's economic situation.

The Alignment leaders are scheduled to meet with the Agudat Yisra'el Knesset Members right now, and then with the TAMI leaders.

Alignment-Agudat Yisra'el Meeting Ends

TA081808 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The deliberations between the Alignment and the Agudat Yisra'el Knesset Members have ended. Avraham Shapira said that Peres promised to maintain the religious status quo. Alignment-TAMI talks are underway right now.

TAMI Still Supports National Unity Government

TA090627 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Last night the Alignment representatives talked with the representatives of TAMI, Agudat Yisra'el and the National Religious Party. Aharon Abu-Hatzira said that he continues to support a national unity government and will not interfere in the president's decision on who is to establish the government.

Progressive List Leader on Arabs in Israel

TA081030 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Aug p 5

[Report on interview with Muhammed Mi'ari, Knesset Member and leader of the Progressive List for Peace, by Ya'aqov Friedler; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] The one thing Muhammed Mi'ari, a newly elected Knesset member, [MK] does not insist on, is precisely the politician's *sine qua non*, holding on to his seat.

Even before he assumed that seat, as number one on the two-man Arab-Jewish Progressive List for Peace — the other is Aluf (res.) Dr Matityahu Peled — he told *THE JERUSALEM POST* he did not fear immediate new elections, and would not compromise his conditions to enable the Alignment to form a government.

He is convinced that new elections would give his controversial party, which advocates a PLO-led Palestinian state, more seats. They had only three weeks in which to campaign after the High Court reversed their disqualification by the Central Election Committee, and another campaign would work in their favor.

Mi'ari said he would concentrate on two issues in the Knesset: the Israeli Arabs and a Palestinian state, both in the cause of peace.

"The situation of the Israeli Arabs is hard, both subjectively and objectively. Land appropriations have stopped, but their impact is still felt and we fear their renewal. The government discriminates against Arab localities in funding and there has been no town planning for them. This has led to housing shortages and illegal building.

"Virtually no Arabs have risen to senior government positions, the state of our education is very poor, and our university graduates can't find suitable employment."

All these ills he lays at the door of "the government policy of keeping the Arabs at an inferior level for ideological reasons and an ostrich attitude of ignoring the problem."

But, he stressed, the 170,000-strong community of Israeli Arabs with many intellectuals and academics is not the same as 150,000 poorly-educated people of 1948, he stressed.

"We now comprise 17 percent of the population. At this election, the Arabs and the Druse put 10 candidates into the Knesset, including three Jews. (Matityahu Peled of his party and Me'ir Wilner and Charlie Biton of RAKAH). Don't kid yourself: they didn't get it on Jewish votes, very few voted for these parties. The Arabs have become an electoral force to be reckoned with."

Mi'ari has a simple formula for Arab-Israeli peace: "Withdrawing the forces of conquest to the 1967 borders; recognition of the PLO as the representative of the Palistinian Arabs; and the establishment of a Palestinian State in the vacated territories."

He sees no reason why such a state, alongside Israel, should not be friendly, its very creation eliminating the "mutual hostility and fear," with borders like those between Belgium and Holland, France and Germany.

If the president were to ask the Alignment to form a government, he said, "we will support it without joining a coalition, subject to 12 conditions on Israeli Arabs and a Palestinian State. We're not the Alignment's reserve team, and if they want our votes they'll pay for them."

In fact, Mi'ari speaks of what the state can do for the Arabs rather than what the Arabs can do for the state. He demands Arabic as an official second language: changes in the national anthem and all "national symbols" to accommodate Arab feelings; an Arab High Court judge; and the elimination of the ex-service clause for National Insurance benefits.

On the other hand, compulsory service for Arabs was "out of the question" until peace is made. "Then, if Israel declares war on, say, South Africa, we'd join," he said with a smile.

The new MK Mi'ari does not question the Jewish character of Israel, but says that "the problem of non-Jews must be solved through constitutional law and individual behaviour." He thought that the Arabs of Israel would "remain in their homeland" if a Palestinian state were created, but they would identify with it emotionally as American Jews do with Israel. "Like them, some of us might want to take dual citizenship."

While offering conditional support to the Alignment, Al-Ard [illegal Arab organization] would oppose any Likud-led government and though RAKAH's Democratic Front "has the platform nearest to our own" they were not forgetting "it's dirty and brutal campaign against us. We can cooperate with them only if they purge Emil Habibi and Tawfiq Zayyad, who instituted this school."

He added that, unlike RAKAH, "we didn't run to the PLO for support in the campaign." Nor had they waited weeks for the

Soviet Union's ruling before coming out against the recent Syrian-supported revolt of the PLO in Tripoli.

They would work for a dovish bloc of peace loving MKs with the CRM, [Citizens Rights Movement] Shinuy and Yahad. Adapting ideology to realities, "though with red lines."

"I want to force myself on Israel as a champion of the Israeli Arabs and peace with the Arab states," declared the new MK. "We will run for the Histadrut, the teachers union, the local authorities."

Now that they had obtained legitimization, he made it clear, the Progressives were just starting to go.

Embassy in U.S. Denies Pressuring Reagan on PRC

TA081812 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Columnists Evans and Novak of *THE WASHINGTON POST* have written that President Reagan has called off a nuclear deal with the PRC because of pressure from Israel, who feared that cooperation between the PRC and Pakistan will be established. The Israeli Embassy has denied this.

Security: No Intervention in Red Sea Planned

TA080958 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0935 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Israeli security sources have told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal that for the time being Israel has no intention of sending any forces to the mined areas in the Red Sea or of intervening in the events in any way.

Embassy in France Comments

TA082005 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
2000 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The Israeli Embassy in France has announced that if there is any danger to Israeli navigation in the Gulf of Suez, Israel will not hesitate to employ all the necessary measures to safeguard itself. A statement issued by the embassy in Paris says that the mines discovered in the Gulf of Suez apparently have to do with the Iran-Iraq conflict, or to differences among the Arab countries.

Youths Protest Legitimization of Kahane

TA081416 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1230 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] As of today, Zionist youth movements will begin holding a permanent protest vigil opposite the presidential residence in Jerusalem to protest what they call the legitimization granted by part of the public to Meir Kahane. At 1700 every day the youth movements will hold an open-air symposium on racism — with the participation of both leftists and conservatives — at the park opposite the Knesset building. [location as heard] The movements are those of the Labor Movement, Hashomer Hatza'ir [MAPAM- affiliated], Hano'ar Ha'oved Vehalomed [Histadrut-affilicated], and Mahanot Ha'olim. The Scouts Movement and the religious youth movements will, for now, not participate.

Scouts To Participate in Rally

TA081429 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1330 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The Scouts movement will also participate in the anti-racism rally planned by Labor's youth movements, opposite the Knesset building in Jerusalem at 1700, although the Scouts Movement is not affiliated with Labor. The organizers of the rally also asked the Bney 'Aqiva movement to participate, but to the best of our knowledge it will not do so for now.

Inflow, Embezzlement of PLO-Jordan Funds Detailed

TA081513 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
8 Aug 84 p 7

[Amnon Raz report]

[Text] Between 1979 and 1983, the PLO has transferred approximately $400 million to the territories, according to a document drawn up by the joint PLO-Jordanian committee, published in the East Jerusalem *AL-MITHAQ.*

According to the document, vast sums of money were allocated to all the sectors in the territories: agriculture ($33 million); industry ($19.5 million); water ($7.3 million); bus companies ($15 million); organizations dealing with housing and compensating families whose houses were demolished by the authorities ($71.5 million); education, including the establishment of 5 universities, 4 colleges, and 20 seminars ($17.5 million); hospitals ($8.1 million); municipalities and local councils ($73.5 million); and charity organizations, including the Waqf institutions ($34.5 million).

The document states, furthermore, that the mind-boggling sum of 1,353 million Jordanian dinars was earmarked for the families of terrorists whose sons were killed, and to landowners whose houses were sealed or whose lands were expropriated.

People who returned from Jordan last night have reported that a large-scale embezzlement of the joint committee's funds has recently rocked the Jordanian and Palestinian establishment responsible for allocating these funds. Sixty-one Palestinian officials have been dismissed from their jobs on the committee, and former Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran and former Minister Hasan Ibrahim were confined to their homes until a suit is filed against them. It was also reported that Shawkat Mahmud, the current minister in charge of occupied territories affairs, was the one to uncover the affair.

There is a lot of agitation in the territories as well. Leaders of many organizations plan to depart for Jordan to find out where the budgets originally planned for their organizations have disappeared. On the other hand, many are afraid to leave for Jordan for fear of being thrown in jail. An East Jerusalem personality disclosed that a nephew of 'Arafat's deputy, Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], is one of the beneficiaries of the committee's generous handouts. He set up a Gaza Strip plant from the 250,000-dinar allocation he received.

The immense sums that have entered the territories — that is, if the document proves to be authentic — raise serious questions regarding the competence of the government system preventing the entry of this kind of money. As will be recalled, the former head of the Civilian Administration, Prof Menahem Milson, said that thanks to the policy he initiated — one limiting the introduction of funds to the territories — he managed to halt the influx of PLO money, whereas the document claims that PLO funds continued to flow into the territories even after the limitations were imposed.

Administration Source Comments

TA081523 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 8 Aug 84 p 7

[Text] Reacting to the East Jerusalem paper's report, a top Civilian Administration source said: "We have no information on funds that reached the territories through the joint committee; but to the best of our knowledge, the figures quoted are overblown. We know for certain that various elements are greatly interested in publishing inflated statistics. At the same time, we know that a substantial part of the funds slated for the territories were pocketed by people associated with the joint committee both in Jordan and in the territories."

The source added that the Civilian Administration's policy in imposing limitations on the introduction of money to the region is aimed at limiting, rather than stopping, the introduction of PLO funds, and, in fact, the policy has scored achievements.

East Jerusalem personalities associated with 'Arafat have reported that the data on the funds reaching the territories published in the paper were intended to slander 'Arafat and weaken his standing among the local population.

Financial Aid Scrutinized

TA081618 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 8 Aug 84 p 2

[Yosef Tzuri'el report]

[Text] There has been a considerable increase in financial aid extended to the Arabs in the occupied territories, not from Arab sources, but from — in descending order — the United States, West Germany, England, Canada, France, the Netherlands, Sweden, and Belgium. Security and government sources believe that this year $20 million will be received, according to the following breakdown: The United States openly gives approximately $10 million, but there are American institutions, such as the Ford Foundation, which have demonstrated an extraordinary generosity [apparent line or lines dropped in paper]. The indirect aid in its different forms totals some $2 million.

Other Western governments act primarily through volunteer organizations that help the Arabs in the territories.

The security sources believe there are three reasons for the significant increase in aid coming from non-Arab sources: political considerations by Western countries; the meagerness of the means at the disposal of the Arab population in the territories from the Israeli Administration; and the pressure exerted by local public figures to receive aid especially from Western countries that are considered friendly with Israel.

PLO Financial Crisis Spurs Austerity Measures

TA081653 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 8 Aug 84 p 3

[Text] For the first time since its establishment 20 years ago, the PLO is faced with a serious financial crisis, forcing it to cut the salaries of approximately 25,000 troops and officers belonging to the "Palestine Liberation Army" and to reimpose a 5-percent levy on the salaries of the 2.5 million Palestinians employed in Arab countries.

According to information compiled from various Palestinian sources, the moment the new PLO budget became effective, it was decided to lower the salaries of the "regular" Palestinian soldiers, which currently stands at $175 a month, by $50. The officers' pay, which currently stands at up to $1,575 a month, will be lowered by $25.

As for the terrorists who have been recruited since last September and whose number was not disclosed, they will be discharged and allowed to return to their families.

The PLO's annual operational budget, which sources report reaches $179 million, registered a $35-million deficit in the first half of last year alone.

Expenses grew even larger between 1 July and 31 December 1983, whereas income dropped. The PLO's fiscal year begins on 1 July, and ends on 30 June.

The PLO's revenues come primarily from donations by the Arab countries and the Palestinian employees in the various countries, as well as from investments of PLO funds in commercial deals all over the world.

The PLO has decided to reimpose the levy on Palestinian employees as well, in order to cover the outstanding expenses it had to pay over the past 2 years because of the IDF siege of Beirut in 1982, and the Fatah rebels' siege of Tripoli in northern Lebanon last year.

The intention of the levy is also to maintain the PLO's financial autonomy, and at the same time increase Palestinian solidarity.

It should be noted that the operation of removing the terrorists from Tripoli last year cost the PLO $4 million.

The purchase of new arms in lieu of those destroyed by the IDF in Beirut as well as the replenishment and renovation of the PLO's administrative infrastructure in certain Arab countries have cost several tens of millions of dollars," knowledgeable sources reported. [no opening quotemark published]

The different terrorist organizations — such as "Fatah,"the Popular Front, the Democratic Front, Jibril's organization, and As-Sa'iqah — have their own budgets, their own resources, and their own accounting systems. In this they have a great advantage over the PLO, which is suffering from bureaucratic featherbedding.

Of all the Arab countries, only Saudi Arabia extended financial aid this year to the PLO, particularly to the 'Arafat-led "Fatah." Libya, for its part, financed the activity of the terrorists who challenged 'Arafat's leadership, in sums higher than what Saudi Arabia submitted.

It should further be noted that the leaders of the civilian representations of the PLO overseas receive up to 155 Jordanian dinars a month, in addition to a premium for the high cost of living, and compensation for their stay abroad.

'Arafat's salary stands at 340 dinars. It is identical to the one received by the PNC chairman, and the director of the Palestine National Fund — an important figure controlling the PLO coffers. This director is usually picked from the leaders of the Arab bank. The bank was founded in 1930 in Eretz Yisra'el, during the British mandate, and is in charge of administering the main bulk of PLO funds.

In effect, this salary is only "official." Its figures are published from time to time to aggrandize the name of the terrorist leader. 'Arafat himself holds in his name many bank accounts with PLO funds in Swiss banks. These sums constitute the lion's share of the means at the PLO's disposal.

Government Approves Another Hebron Settlement

TA090631 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 9 Aug 84 p 1

[David Richardson report]

[Text] The Jewish community in Hebron was augmented by four families who moved late yesterday into caravans brought with government approval to an open plot adjacent to the Jewish cemetery on the Khirbat ar-Rumaythah hill overlooking the town.

Military and other sources admitted last night that the almost completely surreptitious establishment of another Jewish suburb in the staunchly Moslem town was approved very recently by Defence Minister Moshe Arens. This followed an examination of the site by a Justice Ministry land expert, Pli'a Albeck, who confirmed that the open plots originally belonged to Jews.

No explanation was offered for the highly unusual timing of the move, under a government of only interim status and while the Likud is engaged in negotiations with the Alignment about a national unity government.

According to reports received from the area, the four caravans, which had apparently been prepared on the eve of the election for other planned operations, moved up the steep hill leading to the town's Jewish cemetery at 6:30 yesterday afternoon.

Unconfirmed reports last night suggested that two more caravans were also due to arrive with a total of 14 families due to move to the site.

While senior military officers in the area apparently had not been aware of the planned operation, settlement officials explained last night that no specific decision by the Ministerial Settlement Committee was required, since there was a general decision to expand the Jewish presence in the city.

One official also added rather lamely that the new settlement was also "approved by the municipality," which has planning responsibility for the area under the law. Following the dismissal of Hebron's Arab mayor of the twon last year, the municipality has been run by a Jewish official of the Judaea and Samaria Civil Administration.

The well-equipped settlers were able to rapidly carry out basic preparation of the site and surround it with barbed wire. Despite obvious confusion among Israel Defence Forces units in the area, soldiers were immediately provided to guard the families, who have now established a Jewish presence on the western outskirts of what is clearly the most tense and contested city in the West Bank.

Ne'eman Discusses Hebron, General Settlement

TA090754 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0505 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Interview with Minister Yuval Ne'eman, chairman of the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs, by Re'udor Benziman — live]

[Text] [Benziman] How many settlements has the Cabinet, of which you are a member, set up in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza?

[Ne'eman] During the 2 years I was chairman of the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs we decided on 73 settlements, and I would say that except for 2, all the others have already been set up.

[Benziman] Would it be correct to define the developments in Hebron yesterday as three settlements?

[Ne'eman] This is a little peculiar and exaggerated. We are in fact talking of three plots of land, with an average area of 1 dunam each. I did see that the *HA'ARETZ* headline talks of three settlements. This is merely a continued development of the Jewish quarter in Hebron. Two of the three plots are located less than 150 meters from the quarter where Jews have lived for quite some time already. If a fuss is made over each move involving one or two apartments in Hebron, then there will be a lot of fuss.

[Benziman] So let us do call this "settlement" in Hebron, for the purpose of our talk now. In any event, this settlement emerged under slightly different circumstances than those set up by the government to which you belong. This settlement was set up surreptitiously and without the approval of the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs, during the term of a caretaker government, and a day before the Likud and Alignment are slated to discuss the issues of settlement and the future of Judaea and Samaria, in the context of efforts to form a national unity government. The suspicious Israeli may then wonder whether the timing of this settlement, yesterday, is connected to these political events.

[Ne'eman] I would take an exactly opposite view of this. The process involved in the establishment of this settlement, which had been going on for about 2 years, has come to an end; the settlers entered these plots of lands with their trailers the moment all preparatory work had been completed. They are not to blame for the fact that elections were held in the meantime and that a new type of government is in office now. We are continually active in the settlement sphere, regardless of parliamentary and other events. There is a caretaker government today. Had the Israeli legislators wanted life to cease when elections were held, this would have been stipulated in the law. However, on the contrary, since it is well known that it is quite difficult to form coalitions in Israel — during Ben-Gurion's days a caretaker government once was in office for a whole year — the legislators took care that a caretaker government should be able to proceed in office uninterruptedly, as a government in every sense of the word.

This process in Hebron, the Qiryat Arba' part of it, in fact began during the Alignment's term of power, with the Jewish quarter established in 1980. These three lots have been under consideration for about 2 to 3 years, since the checks into the ownership of the land took a long time. Incidentally, it is incorrect to say that the point of ownership has not been properly taken care of; the settling of these plots of land was made possible by the fact that the civil affairs section of the State's Attorney's Office gave official approval for this. Jews can thus live there today.

[Benziman] If all is well and legitimate, if there are no problems in fact, why was the settlement set up with so much secrecy, as reported in the press?

[Ne'eman] This term secrecy would apply to those who did not know. Anyone living in Hebron has known that three lots were going to be added to the Jewish quarter. It was said that this issue was not discussed by the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs. This is true. We will simply not discuss each apartment and house added in Hebron. There are general decisions on this. The issue is under the authority of the defense minister; it is the Defense Ministry and the military authorities who handled this matter and submitted the request 2 years ago. The only secrecy lies in the fact that the limelight was directed elsewhere, rather than on Hebron.

[Benziman] Still, this settlement may not be characteristic of recent Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria because it is carried out in the heart of a densely-populated Arab area. This is a very important decision, in principle, while you are claiming that just such a decision does not require the approval of the Ministerial Committee or Settlement Affairs.

[Ne'eman] This is an addition of 3 dunams to a settlement which is indeed in the heart of a town which once had a large Jewish quarter, a quarter which is being restored today. None of the settlement activity carried out by the government in recent years involved what the Alignment terms as areas densely populated with Arabs. Incidentally, this factor is meaningless when you think in terms of land. If you draw a line north of Tel Aviv, from the Yarqon River eastward to the Jordan River and then up to Hadera on the coast, you will find that about 1.5 million Jews are crowded into a 10-km strip along the coast, while about 200,000 Arabs live in an area of 60 km.

[Benziman] If I follow your logic, there is no need for the approval of the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs, which you chair, for any additional settlement in areas densely populated with Arabs, since one kind or another of Jewish settlement already exists there. If we want to settle further in Hebron, let us say, do we not have to adopt a decision on this?

[Ne'eman] It will be unnecessary to adopt a decision regarding settlement inside Hebron, in the Jewish quarter there. It may be necessary to adopt a more general decision at some stage, but decisions by the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs are usually needed for new settlements. In Hebron's case, if we talk of settlement sponsored by the Construction and Housing Ministry, this relies on a decision made as early as 1980. The Defense Ministry has nothing to do with such a decision. However, there is a decision, adopted a few months ago, whereby it is not necessary to make another decision on the expansion of a settlement.

[Benziman] I heard that the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs will meet this Sunday. Some reports say that you intend to bring the establishment of additional Judaea and Samaria settlements to the committee for decision.

[Ne'eman] We are continuing with the settlement process. Over the last 2 years I initiated committee meetings once every 3 to 4 weeks, and we usually brought up the establishment of 3 settlements, on the average, for decision per month. I am not sure that we will have three ready-made settlements for discussion next week. What we have largely dealt with lately, during the past year, was followup of settlements, and this will also be the main topic of the coming meeting: followup of settlements whose establishment is currently underway. However, we may still bring a number of new settlements to the committee for decision.

[Benziman] Many settlements have been erected lately in Judaea and Samaria. Have there been many people settling in them? Again, according to the reports I read, the number of people who are manning the settlements set up on the eve of elections is very small.

[Ne'eman] This is simply because the number of housing units provided was very small. There is not even a single empty apartment in Judaea and Samaria today, and there is a great deal of pressure by people who want to move into the settlements. We in fact recognize a nucleus only when it is made up of about 30 to 40 families, and generally there are no more than about 10 to 15 structures when the settlers first move into their settlement site. As a result there is always a large reserve of families waiting to move into the settlements.

There is currently talk that since there is no budget anyway there should be no problem in reconciling the Likud's and Alignment's approaches, that we should set up fewer settlements or refrain from establishing them in certain areas. I would like to observe in this context that the Hebron example shows that there is no problem of money, but rather a problem in principle, of where settlements should be erected.

Friendly Relations in West Bank Questioned

TA081459 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 8 Aug 84 p 5

[Pinhas 'Inbari report]

[Excerpts] Up to about 2 weeks ago 'Isa 'Ata (al-Jafal) was one of the four mukhtars of Abu Dis village, near Jerusalem. About a week ago he was summoned to the Civilian Administration in Bethlehem, and the civilian governor revoked his mukhtar's certificate. The reason was that 2 days before this, the mukhtar had not attended the inauguration ceremony of the election settlement Neve Adummim, which is located right on the outskirts of the village. His suspension correctly exposes the "good-neighborly relations" that are being formed between settlements and the villages near them, and that were given expression by the incorporation of the villages' mukhtars in the settlements' inauguration ceremonies.

The Civilian Administration has explained that Mukhtar 'Isa 'Ata (al-Jafal) was suspended because he had "incited the village."

If one listens to the village inhabitants, there is not much to incite here.

The most successful incitement is the Likud policy of "good-neighborliness."

Syrian Concept of Strategic Balance Analyzed

JN081522 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1335 GMT 8 Aug 84

["Observation" by 'Ezra Shirazi]

[Text] Dear listeners: Syrian Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas said yesterday that Syria is about to achieve a strategic balance with Israel as a result of Soviet support for his country. Many people certainly still remember President Hafiz al-Asad's statement 2 months ago when he said that the goals of peace and a strategic balance can be achieved simultanously. One week ago, on the occasion of Syrian Army Day, he also said that achieving a strategic balance with Israel is an urgent need in order to bring about peace in the Middle East. Hence, Gen Talas' statement yesterday that Syria is about to achieve a strategic balance with Israel can be considered as good tidings, because it means that peace is now closer than ever.

Just as Gen Talas, with his usual honesty, did not forget to highlight the Soviet Union's role and its great contribution to realizing the strategic balance, all peace-loving people in the world should also recognize this great contribution to our region's peoples. Thus, in light of the Syrian defense minister's good tidings, all the peace-loving people in the entire world anxiously expect the Damascus rulers not to delay the even better tidings as soon as they realize a strategic balance.

Finally, perhaps there is every reason to draw the Damascus rulers' attention to the daily need of assuring themselves of the accuracy of electronic equipment and the balances by which they estimate the status of the strategic balance and its fluctuations, because any technical failure in this equipment will dispappoint not only peace-loving people in the world, but will also make the Damascus rulers commit mistakes that may lead to grave consequences.

Tyre Port Reopened With New Security Measures

TA081424 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The An-Nabatiyah market has now been closed for 7 days, ever since an IDF soldier was killed there by a hand grenade explosion. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the investigation into the attack is still continuing and dozens of merchants have been detained for questioning. In contrast to this, the Tyre port was opened yesterday after new security arrangements had been instituted, and the IDF has renewed the fishing licences of about 400 fishermen in the town.

IDF Employs New Anti-Terrorist Steps in Lebanon

TA081534 Tel Aviv ITIM In Hebrew 1450 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Southern Lebanon, 8 Aug (ITIM) — The IDF units in Southern Lebanon have recently begun experimenting with new methods regarding contact with the local population aimed at trying to curb attacks against the IDF. "The 'carrot and stick' method works well in southern Lebanon, too. We will have to continue using it, although somewhat differently," a senior officer in the area said.

This week the IDF instructed Shi'ite notables to take action to remove the portraits of Khomeyni and other Shi'ite extremists from conspicuous places in town. The IDF's liaison unit has also begun activating local committees to conduct negotiations with the inhabitants and work toward stopping their cooperation with the terrorist organizations.

The main activity centers around Ansariyah, where more than 300 anti-IDF incidents were registered over the past fortnight. ITIM correspondent Shlomo Hadad reports that IDF bulldozers began erecting earthen barricades around several villages which the terrorists use as a base of operations, as was the case in 'Adlum. "There is no closure here, and we hope they will get the message," the officers explained. [sentence as received]

The IDF is taking measures to impose limitations on a few villages in which terrorist activity is concentrated in a bid to prevent anti-IDF activity. Similarly, unscheduled checks at roadblocks are being instituted and the barricades themselves are periodically relocated, so the terrorists cannot really determine exactly where they will be confronted with the next roadblock.

Shi'ites Said Main Source of Lebanon Problem

TA081541 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1405 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Nearly all those involved in carrying out anti-IDF activities in southern Lebanon are Shi'ites from that part of the country. Their motives, a senior IDF officer serving in southern Lebanon said, are religious fanaticism, money, and a national sport. The IDF is taking measures to combat the problem, and has been trying to foster relations with the local moderate Shi'ite population, but the problem arises when the perpetrators of the attacks receive their instructions from the north, from Beirut, where the influential Shi'ite leaders reside.

Analysis of Election, Approach to Lebanon

TA081644 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 8 Aug 84 p 8

[Shmu'el Segev commentary: "The Likud Was Right"]

[Text] The deterioration in the security situation in southern Lebanon that has recently become apparent makes it imperative for the caretaker government headed by Yitzhaq Shamir and the man designated to head the next government, Shim'on Peres, to devote immediate attention to a solution to this problem.

Now, with the election for the 11th Knesset over, the Lebanese crisis can be considered in an atmosphere free of election propaganda. It was actually the votes of the IDF soldiers, including the standing Army, which proved that the Lebanon war was not the factor that led to the drop in the Likud's strength. The voting results actually indicated the reverse: Despite the 600 fallen, the IDF soldiers strengthened the Tehiya's power and once more proved the profound gap between the front line and the rear. On the assumption that appeared to be certain — that the soldiers were in the final analysis influenced by domestic positions and the general atmosphere in the street — one could have assumed that it would actually be those serving in Lebanon who would, in their voting, underline their reservations about the war. However, they actually strengthened the government and expressed reservations about the general attack against the Likud leaders.

Against the background of the soldiers' votes, the way in which Shamir and Peres will now try to deal with the sudden deterioration in the Lebanese crisis has taken on great importance. During the election period the Alignment called for a withdrawal of IDF forces from southern Lebanon and the setting of a timetable of 3-6 months for this evacuation. For its part, the Likud, while it did indeed support an IDF withdrawal, was opposed to timetables. The two large parties made the withdrawal dependent on an agreement with the Lebanese Government about suitable security arrangements to guarantee the Galilee's safety.

It is now clear that the policy drawn up by Ambassador Uri Lubrani and adopted by Defense Minister Moshe Arens was more suitable than the Alignment position to Israel's security needs. This is because setting a timetable for a withdrawal, even if it is dependent on security arrangements, would put the IDF into a "pressure cooker" and certainly lead to a hardening in the positions of Syria and Lebanon. With the clear knowledge that the IDF would want to keep to the timetable set for it, the Government of Israel would have to make much more far-reaching concessions than those it can presently expect. As opposed to this, if President al-Asad and Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami are convinced that Israel is unaffected by time, they will be much more willing to talk with Israel, with the goal of arriving at an acceptable compromise concerning security arrangements in southern Lebanon.

All this is now especially applicable to the man who is the prime minister-designate, Shim'on Peres. In several of the world's democratic countries, and particularly in the United States, it is the custom that the candidate for the presidency or premiership is given daily briefings by the intelligence establishment and the various government ministries on his country's domestic and external problems. This is intended to make it possible for the candidate for the ruling position to enter his post as rapidly as possible, and in control of his country's current problems without there being any need for a protracted overlap between the regimes and without a "vacuum" being created in the arrangements for the transfer of power. Israel has never followed this path. On the contrary, in most cases the government has withheld information from the opposition out of fear that its opponents would use this information against it in the election campaign. However, Israel's grave situation in the field of foreign affairs and security policy and on the economic plane make it imperative for the government to adopt this wise system, which is accepted in the West, without delay. Instead of waiting until a coalition is formed, the Shamir government must immediately make it possible for Shim'on Peres to be briefed daily on the issues that interest him, and also facilitate his approach to the classified information in the possession of the intelligence community. If Peres is given situation reports on a daily basis, he will be able to formulate a new position on the issue of southern Lebanon, and this position can serve him in his talks with the leaders of the various parties likely to join his government.

It is just now, when extremist Shi'ite elements — with the full encouragement of Damascus — are trying to step up their attacks against IDF soldiers, that President al-Asad must be convinced that Shim'on Peres, if he succeeds in forming a new government, will also be in no hurry to get out of southern Lebanon and will not set timetables under pressure. Then the Damascus authorities may want to come forward and open negotiations over security arrangements on the Israeli border and a gradual return of sovereignty to an independent Lebanese Government.

Blast in Jerusalem Quarter 'Terrorist-Related'

TA081244 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 8 Aug 84 p 11

[Report by Barukh Me'iri]

[Text] Police investigators have concluded that the explosion which occurred near the peace monument in the Abu Tor neighborhood in Jerusalem yesterday was terrorist-related.

An initial investigation indicated that three children, all approximately 10 years old, discovered a pipe near the monument. It is assumed that the three began to play with the pipe and one of them threw it, causing it to explode suddenly.

Trade Deal With Hungarian Concern Reported

TA081622 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 8 Aug 84 p 3

[Avraham Dishon report]

[Text] The Dan-Hasharon Co-Op [as published] chain has recently signed an agreement on cooperation with a large marketing chain in Hungary. Co-Op Director General Beni Ga'on recently returned from a business visit to Hungary, which he made together with the chain's deputy director general for commerce, Ron Gutman.

During the visit the pair agreed that their Hungarian counterpart would purchase various products from Israel, including food, and Israel would purchase similar products from the Hungarian chain. Ga'on also signed an agreement to export enamel containers from Hungary, totalling $100,000. It has been learned that the Dubeck Cigarette Company has recently marketed considerable quantites of cigarettes to Hungary, which recently repaid it with bottles of alcoholic beverages.

Other Israeli elements, including the Koor concern, have recently been exploring the Hungarian market, which acts as a bridge to all the East European countries.

Briefs

Employment Data — Today approximately 60,000 workers from the territories are working in Israel with a permit, and anot her 30,000 without a permit. Unemployment in the territories is about 1 percent, while in Israel it is 5 percent. To preventmore unemployment in Israel, it was decided to try and replace Arab workers by Israelis wherever possible. [Summary] [Tel Aviv *YEDI'OT AHARONOT* in Hebrew 8 Aug 84 p 21 TA]

July Immigration Figures — In July 1984, 1440 new immigrants and potential immigrants were registered by the Immigrant Absorption Ministry, which is an increase of 37.7 percent compared to June 1984. 448 immigrants are from North America, 427 of them from the United States; 212 are from Romania; 45 are from the Soviet Union; 387 from Western Europe; 103 are from Africa; 53 are from Asia, and 161 are from Latin America. [Summary] [Tel Aviv *DAVAR* in Hebrew 8 Aug 84 p 4 TA]

Trade Deficit Drop — Israel's trade deficit dropped by 23 percent during the first 7 months of 1984 compared with the same period last year. This follows a rise of 10 percent in exports and a drop of 4 percent in imports. However, the deficit increased by 27 percent last month compared with June, because of expectations prior to the election. The finance minister told our correspondent Gadi Sukenik that the trend toward improvement in the trade balance was continuing, but it must be strengthened in the coming months in order to guarantee Israel's foreign currency needs and ability to continue to receive loans from abroad. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 8 Aug 84 TA]

ALGERIA

New Ambassadorial Appointments Reported

PM080949 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 1,3-4 Aug 84

[Editorial Report] *EL MOUDJAHID*, on 1 and 3-4 August respectively, carries on page 3 a 50-word APS report announcing the appointment of Abderrahman Cheriet Algerian ambassador to Jordan, and a 100-word APS report announcing the appointment of Abdallah Fadil Algerian ambassador to Yugoslavia and Mostefa Bouakaz Algerian ambassador to Kenya.

LIBYA

Dispatch of Envoy to Egypt Denied

LD081612 Tripoli JANA in English 1441 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Tripoli, 11 Dhulqidah, 8 August, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Egyptian newspaper *AKHBAR AL-YAWM*, claimed on Saturday that the leader of the revolution had sent a special envoy to Egypt to carry out some political contacts. In an editorial, a Sadatist journalist, Ibrahim Sa'ada, claimed that the leader of the revolution had sent, in mid-July, an envoy in an attempt to improve the Libyan relations with Egypt.

The political editor of JANA, commented on the lies published by the paper. He said, "The claim of *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* newspaper is ill-founded. For the leader of the revolution did not send any envoy to Cairo. The situation as we understand it, between Egypt and Jamahiriyah and Egypt and other Arab states, is not that of deterioration in relations and that efforts should be made to improve them. The case is bigger and more dangerous than that. Egypt committed high treason in its surrender to the enemy and its outrageous signature of the Camp David agreements, thus endangering, through this disgraceful stand, the future of the [words indistinct] enabling, accordingly, the Zionist enemy to continue its threats against the Arab existence hitting the Palestinian and Arab forces, carrying out its cowardly aggression on the Iraqi nuclear reactor, the barbaric invasion of Lebanon, [words indistinct] occupation of water sources, threatening the Arab oil fields and drafting Jews, from various parts of the world, to Arab lands.

"Doubtless, the Sadatist journalist who wrote these allegations and lies is a Zionist agent who had infiltrated the paper. Indeed, agents like him put themselves at the front line of defending the enemy. They are carrying that role on behalf of the Israeli newspapers. Publishing lies like these, in reality reflects ill-intentions. In as much as it is a desperate and palpable attempt, in claiming that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi had dispatched an envoy to Egypt, to urge other Arab states to contact Egypt and resume relations with it.

"We reaffirm that the problem between Egypt and us is that Egypt had committed a gross error in surrendering to the Zionist enemy compromising the Arab dignity. However, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi will not hesitate meeting President Husni Mubarak if the purpose is Egypt's withdrawal from Camp David and its return to the Arab nations arena and its acquittal from the cowardly act committed by traitor defunct As-Sadat against the Arab nation and its patriotic struggle".

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives DPRK Chief of Staff

LD082342 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The brother commander of the revolution today received General O Kuk-yol chief of the General Staff of the DPRK People's Armed Forces, who delivered a written message to him from chairman Kim Il-song. In his message to the brother commander, Kim Il-song expressed his pleasure at the positive development of relations of friendship and cooperation between the Korean people and the Libyan Arab people. He also expressed the Korean people's high esteem for the struggle of the Jamahiriyah people against imperialism and their brave stand against all provocations.

Sudanese Socialist Front Statement on Armed Struggle

LD081412 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The Sudanese Socialist Popular Front, the revolutionary committees movement, has affirmed that not a single Sudanese citizen needs foreign incitement to struggle to topple the regime of the Khartoum ruler. In a statement issues today the front declared that the danger threatening this regime, linked to American imperialism, is an internal danger and is a flesh-and-blood Sudanese popular revolution. The statement said: From the start we raised the slogan of armed struggle in northern Sudan, and we now announce that our Sudanese revolutionary committees are deployed in Khartoum, Omdurman, Khartoum north, Atbarah, Kurdufan, Port Sudan, Kassala, (Madani), (Sinar), Al-Ubayyid, Al-Fashir, in all towns and villages and the Sudanese outback.

The front declared its consequential alliance with the Popular Army for the Liberation of Sudan, leader of the armed popular revolution in the south. It appealed to the Sudanese people and free officers and soldiers in the Sudanese Army to join the popular army for the (?speedy) overthrow of the regime in Khartoum and to cleanse Sudanese territory of American forces.

SUDAN

Ministerial Delegation Returns From Gulf Tour

JN081909 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Khartoum, 8 Aug (SUNA) — The ministerial delegation led by Culture and Information Minister 'Ali Muhammad Shammu returned home today from a 3-week tour of the Gulf states and the Arabian Peninsula. In a statement to SUNA upon his arrival, Shammu affirmed that the tour was successful and that it achieved all its objectives. He said that during this tour, the delegation conveyed President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri's messages to the kings, presidents and amirs of the states that were covered by the tour. He also said that the delegation met with the leaders, ministers, officials and parliamentarians of these states and explained to them the legislative and political developments that have taken place in Sudan and also answered all their queries on these developments.

Shammu added that the delegation also met with the news media and Sudanese communities in the countries visited and answered all questions put by the media and the Sudanese communities. He said that many ambiguous matters were clarified. Minister Shammu pointed out that these states have been greatly influenced by the viewpoint of the Western media, which used their enormous resources to distort Sudan's image and to disseminate false information. The minister affirmed that the meetings were satisfactory and clear.

Last night, the ministerial delegation met with the Sudanese community in Muscat, the capital of the Sultanate of Oman. During this meeting, Minister Shammu spoke about the unfair propaganda campaign being waged against Sudan because of the legislative, political, constitutional and cultural developments that have taken place in the country. The minister explained these developments.

Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman, member of the delegation, also spoke at this meeting. He dealt with Sudan's strategic position and African, Arab and Islamic affiliations as well as with the principles that govern Sudan's foreign policy. The minister also referred to the dangers threatening Sudan, saying that these dangers are not new, but constitute a well-known strategy for a major power and its allies in the area.

Dr 'Awn ash-Sharif Qasim, member of the Executive Bureau of the SSU Central Leadership; Dr Yusuf al-Khalifah Abu Bakr, chairman of the Higher Council for Religious and Awqaf Affairs; and members of the delegation spoke on the Sudanese community's cultural and Islamic background as well as on the philosophy behind the Islamic line as a method of government in Sudan. They spoke about the Courts of Decisive Justice, saying that these courts have helped remove the complications and slow procedures of the judiciary and thus have made the citizens feel reassured for the first time. It is worth noting that the delegation's tour covered Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the UAE, Bahrain and Oman.

Briefs

Outgoing Egyptian Ambassador — Khartoum, 8 Aug (SUNA) — First Vice President, retired, Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib received here today Egypt's Ambassador to Sudan Ahmad 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif on the occasion of the latter's end of term of office in Sudan. [Except] [Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 8 Aug 84 JN]

TUNISIA

Briefs

New Qatari Envoy — Tunis, 8 Aug (WAKH) — The Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi received the credentials of 'Ali Husayn Muftah, the new Qatari ambassador to Tunisia. At a meeting where the Arab political situation and means of promoting bilateral cooperation in various spheres were also reviewed. [Text][Manama WAKH in English 1550 GMT 8 Aug 84 GF]

WESTERN SAHARA

Algiers Cites Saharan Communique on Moroccan Losses

LD082238 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic Ministry of Information and Culture issued a statement today with the results of the military operations by the Saharan Liberation Army during the first week of this month against the Moroccan forces positions. The Saharan statement stated that 30 Moroccan soldiers were killed and 4 others injured. One 120mm gun, one land-rover, one heavy 14.5 mm machine gun and a number of trenches were destroyed during a series of military operations launched by the Saharan fighters. It noted that the forces of the Saharan Army on 1 August intensively shelled the positions of the Moroccan forces at (?El Ouja) and on 4 August they attacked several enemy positions in the Amgala and (?Rous el Jachbein) which is situated between Bou Craa and Amgala.

In conclusion the Saharan statement noted that the Saharan People's Army on 5 August attacked two Moroccan forces positions in Day, Rag and Mahbes Jneinat.

DJIBOUTI

President Discusses Red Sea Mines With Mitterrand

For Paris reportage on the visit to France by President Hassan Gouled Apidon, including his meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand, see the France section of the 9 August Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

SOMALIA

Ministries Discuss New Influx of Refugees

EA081622 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] A special meeting to scrutinize ways and means of finding a solution to the new influx of refugees into the Somali Democratic Republic was held this morning at the headquarters of the Somali Democratic Republic Ministry for Information and National Guidance.

The meeting was attended by senior officials from the Ministries of the Interior, Foreign Affairs, Finance, Information and National Guidance, and Justice and Religious Affairs, as well as from the Somali Democratic Republic Police and the National Refugee Commission under the chairmanship of Challe Colonel Mohamed Omar Jess, the Somali Democratic Republic minister for information and national guidance.

The meeting discussed in detail how to help the new refugees in the Somali Democratic Republic and how the Somali Democratic Republic Government will extend every possible assistance to them while awaiting help from international relief agencies.

The refugees to the Somali Democratic Republic say that one of the major factors forcing them out of their motherland is the anti-Islamic oppression unleashed on them by the Abyssinian regime, since the Abyssinian Administration is now preparing to form a communist party and therefore they have no room for people who believe in Islam.

Challe Abdi Mohamed Tarah, addressing the meeting, said that it is imperative to find a lasting political solution for the fleeing refugees. Challe Tarah also told the meeting about the refugees, the area from which they had fled from, and why and how they have been received. The chairman of the National Refugee Commission added that economic wealth-generating projects must be found so that the refugees can be self-sufficient in the months ahead, because the government cannot provide the basic needs for all the refugees in the Somali Democratic Republic.

CHAD

Government Prepared to Meet Opposition 'Anytime'

AB081828 Paris AFP in French 1628 GMT 8 Aug 84

[By AFP special correspondent Jean Claude Chapon]

[Text] Ndjamena, 8 Aug (AFP) — The Chadian Government is prepared to "meet the opposition anywhere and at anytime," Chadian Information Minister Soumaila Mahamat told AFP on Wednesday.

Speaking on the prospects for a reconciliation meeting planned some weeks ago to take place in Brazzaville [words indistinct] this meeting "could take place." The Congolese authorities have made so much effort toward it, according to him, without achieving positive results so far, "because of Libya's refusal."

"We cannot be very optimistic," another Chadian official said, "because a portion of the opposition still takes orders from Tripoli which has just hardened its stand." "We know that Libya is blocking all avenues for direct contacts," the official said. But "there is no deadline because our desire is permanent," the information minister added. He reaffirmed that Ndjamena wants "a preparatory meeting among Chadians only, because this is the only way to avoid a failure like that of Addis Ababa last January" (when the OAU tried to organize such a meeting).

In the diplomatic circles of the Chadian capital, it is believed that the prospects of a meeting between the various sides to the Chadian conflict are "real." Official sources pointed that in Ndjamena "contacts are actively being made wherever possible. It is a long and exacting task, but we are making use of all the opportunities," they added.

If the Brazzaville meeting "is not assured," Mr Mahamat stated, "we shall not lose hope and we will continue in our efforts." Concerning the (?topics) of this eventual meeting, the Ndjamena leaders are relatively evasive. "It is still premature to define the topics which we will discuss during this meeting," it has been stressed by official sources which said that, of course, the primary aim is peace in Chad.

Diplomatic circles in the Chadian capital believe that a "slow but discernible" development is taking place presently. "The matter has not yet matured," a Western diplomat said. "Nothing irreversible has taken place, which is already a gain." Without being "too optimistic," he went on, "we can note some encouraging signs." Among them in particular, observers pointed out, is the acceptance by the GUNT (Transitional National Union Government) of Goukouni Oueddei of the principle of a meeting of experts but also the increase in private contacts between the parties involved. "These contacts have always existed," notes a diplomat, "but the frequency has increased considerably of late. Not a single week goes by without someone from Ndjamena meeting a member of the opposition in Paris, Brazzaville, or Libreville." "The issue of meeting of experts is very important," stresses this diplomat, "because it will enable the participants to draw up a formula which will help overcome the problems of representation of the factions."

All that is needed now is patience, according to the same diplomatic circles: "Nothing should be precipitated, but rather support should be given to the goodwill being shown on both sides."

Finally, it is noted in Ndjamena that if one cannot speak of a "last chance meeting" one should not lose sight of the fact that goodwill can wane in the absence of progress. "The Chadians, whatever they may be, must understand that their friends can grow tired," says a diplomat. "If the Brazzaville meeting cannot take place, it will be difficult after that to find another party which will be willing to mediate once again."

AFP Describes Scope of Operation Manta

AB082128 Paris AFP in French 1438 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Ndjamena, 7 Aug (AFP) — One year after its launching, the French military operation "Manta" has been described as positive by the authorities in Ndjamena. Meanwhile, they remain circumspect over the outcome of the operation.

As for the French, this "extraordinary war machinery," which stopped the advance of the Transitional National Union Government's [GUNT] troops — supported by Libya — was to enable negotiations to reduce the fighting. According to the Chadian authorities, if "Manta" has had considerable positive effects, the factual partition of Chad has remained, while Libya has increased its control over the northern part of the country.

The first batch of French soldiers landed in Chad on the night of 9 to 10 August 1983. They were about 150 in number from the CAR and stationed in Ndjamena before the first troops flown in straight from France joined them the following day. During the following month the "increase in manpower" did not meet any major problems and reached a level which has made "Manta" even now a particularly dissuasive force. Some figures reveal the scope of the operation: more than 3,300 troops, 735 vehicles of all kinds, six "Jaguar" tactical support aircraft, five "Mirage F-1" fighters, a refuelling aircraft, 10 "Puma" transport helicopters, 12 "Gazelle" attack helicopters, not to mention the sophisticated military equipment, which includes the "Milan" and "Apilar" antitank weapons, the "AMX-10" tanks and the "Crotale" antiaircraft missiles.

"It is a powerful war machine," "Manta's" new "boss," General Yves Bechu, said today. "It is the first time I have seen such a great coherence in the means used for such an operation," he said. According to him, he "who masterminded the operation did not forget anything. We have no weakness as far as our mission is concerned."

The French headquarters in Ndjamena recalled that this mission has two objectives: Chadian territorial surveillance to the south of the "Red Line" (16th parallel) and the instruction of the Chadian Army. Thus, for a year now the Air Force goes on reconnaissance missions to the north. At the same time, French infantry permanently patrols the Chadian desert from their bases at Salal and Moussoro (north of Ndjamena), Biltine or Arada (east), to the limit of the 16th parallel.

The Ndjamena authorities are sensitive to this deployment of troops and are favorable to the "Manta" operation. Yet, they cannot help being disappointed about the somewhat passive French military presence. "We are grateful for the French military efforts and aware of the burden it can be," a Chadian official said. "We appreciate in particular the military instruction and the logistic support given to our soldiers," he added.

CAR Envoy Brings Message to Habre on Border Problems

AB081650 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Excerpts] The relations between Chad and the neighboring countries enjoys a priority in Chad's open-door policy toward other countries. Thus, for 1 month now, very close contacts have been maintained with the other countries in the subregion.

As far as the CAR — one of the targest of this policy of dialogue and consultations — is concerned, Guillaume-Lucien Djenbot, that country's secretary of state of the Presidency of the Republic in charge of energy, has arrived in our country. He arrived in the Chadian capital last Saturday. This morning, he delivered a message from President Kolingba to head of state Hissein Habre. The message concerns the Chadian-CAR relations which are dominated by security and border problems.

Radio Bardai Reports GUNT Attack, Army Maneuvers

AB081330 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 2000 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Summary] "According to a report by our permanent correspondent in Ndjamena, on 4 August a group of commandos of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] attacked the residence of the commander of the 6th (?Battalion) of the puppet army at Doba between the village of Zamara and the locality of (Lojondo). The military leader concerned only saved his life by jumping through the window." Some documents were seized by the commandos.

In Chari-Baguirmi, three enemy vehicles on a supply mission were completely destroyed by a mine on 30 July.

Our permanent correspondent also reported that the puppet enemies are now engaged in military maneuvers. "The leader of the puppet army is now in Moussoro to regroup his troops. This is an event which should be followed closely."

CONGO

PCT Central Committee Secretariat Members Named

AB082302 Paris AFP in French 1419 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Brazzaville, 8 Aug (AFP) — The Central Committee of the Congolese Labor Party (PCT — the only party) that met under the chairmanship of the head of state of the Congo, Colonel Denis Sassou-Nguesso, has named members of its Secretariat, according to a statement issued on Tuesday at the end of the extraordinary meeting of the Central Committee.

The members of the Secretariat are as follows:

Secretary in charge of party organization:
Camille Bongou
Secretary in charge of coordination of the activities of mass organizations and secretary general of the Congolese Trade Union Confederation (CSC):
Jean Michel Yangouma
Secretary in charge of external relations:
Pierre Nze
Secretary in charge of ideology and political education:
Celestin Goma Foutou
Secretary in charge of education:
Daniel Abibi
Secretary in charge of press and propaganda:
Jean Jacques Nicholas Mvouen
Secretary in charge of planning and economy:
Pierre Moussa
Secretary in charge of management of economic activities:
Clement Mierassa
Secretary in charge of land and agrarian reforms and cooperatives:
Alphones Pouissou Poati
Secretary and head of the General Political Directorate in the Army:
Norbert Dabera
Secretary and director of the higher school of the party:
Jean Francois Obembe

ZAIRE

Opposition Group Says Election 'Antidemocratic'

AB082220 Paris AFP in French 1730 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] Paris, 7 Aug (AFP) — The renovated Congolese National Movement (MNC — Zairian opposition) has described as "antidemocratic" the recent presidential elections in Zaire which reelected Field Marshal Mobutu to a third term with 99.16 percent of the total votes cast.

The MNC, which stated that it was not surprised by this result, said in a statement that the election "was based on the systematic elimination of other candidates, on fear by voters who were forced to cast Mobutu's green paper ballot, and on intimidation at polling stations where voters were forced to fill ballot boxes with the green paper ballot or else be reprimanded." According to the MNC, "the closure of the borders during the electoral period only sought to cover this unorthodox and antidemocratic practice." Finally, the MNC called on "all opposition movements to work jointly for the overthrow of the Zairian dictatorship and the advent of a real democracy."

Communique Marks End of Regional Security Meeting

AB081530 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] [Togo] head of state General Gnassingbe Eyadema yesterday received in audience the Nigerian and Beninese delegations. The Nigerian delegation was led by Foreign Affairs Minister Ibrahim Gambari who later disclosed that their talks with the Togolese head of state were related to security and bilateral cooperation issues. As for the Beninese delegation, it was led by Edouard Zodehougan, minister delegate to the presidency in charge of interior and security. They discussed with the Togolese head of state issues relating to security in the subregion.

Both delegations, along with Ghanaian and Togolese delegates, attended the quadripartite security conference of foreign and interior ministers which ended yesterday evening in Lome.

According the joint communique issued at the end of the deliberations, the four countries' delegates thoroughly examined the security situation prevailing in the West African subregion, as well as the ways and means to initiate cooperation among the criminal police forces [as heard]. They also examined possibilities of fighting against fraudulent activities such as currency, tobacco, and drug trafficking in order to achieve monetary stability and protect the health of the inhabitants of the region.

The ministers stressed the need to set up a committee of experts of the four countries — Benin, Ghana, Nigeria, and Togo — to draw up an extradition treaty and a draft agreement under which the quadripartite meeting of the ministers of interior will be institutionalized. The texts of these draft agreements are to be submitted later to the heads of state for approval.

At the end the deliberations the ministers from Benin, Ghana, and Nigeria expressed their gratitude to Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People and president of the Republic, to the Togolese people, and to the government for the warm reception they accorded them during their stay in Togo.

In his closing address our Foreign Minister Akakpo-Ahianyo underlined the significance of the meeting which enabled each of the delegations to air its views without reservation on all the problems raised. He finally expressed satisfaction with the encouraging outcome of this 2-day meeting, which resulted in very fruitful consultations for the future of our countries.

For his part, Ghanaian Foreign Affairs Minister Obed Asamoah expressed his hope that this kind of cooperation among our four countries will be emulated by other countries in the subregion for the happiness of our peoples. According to the Ghanaian minister, this meeting is only the beginning of a broader cooperation and further meetings will not only make for better understanding but also for more fruitful cooperation among the four countries.

BURKINA

National Radio Director Lamien on Name Changes

AB082036 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] We have noticed confusion concerning the pronunciation and the spelling of the new words which designate our national entity. In this connection Jacques-Prosper Bazie has interviewed Ouatamon Lamien, the director of the national radio, for clarifications:

[Begin recording] [Bazie] Comrade Director, we have noted that since the proclamation of the Burkina Faso, there have been unfortunate confusions concerning the designation of the country, both in the spelling and the pronunciation. Why is this?

[Lamien] I think that it is due to the fact that we are not yet quite used to the national alphabet in which the sound "ou" is spelled "u", so it is quite normal that Burkina is spelled "b-u-r" instead of "b-o-u" as some people are inclined to write. So Burkina is spelled with "u" and not "ou." Concerning Faso, some people often use two "s" letters. But actually it is spelled with a single "s." Henceforth, Burkina Faso is spelled with "u" for Burkina, and single "s" for Faso.

Concerning Burkinabe, there is also quite a bit of confusion. Burkinabe is not spelled with "ais" at the end, but with "e" with a heavy stress. So the feminine remains Burkinabe with "e" with a heavy stress, and not in other forms as one may think. So there is a great difference.

Now, concerning the use of the words Burkina and Faso, there is a real confusion. Some people indiscriminately use Burkina Faso in every case because they think Burkina Faso is just the country. Yet the articles of the ordinance are quite clear on this. Article 2 of the ordinance involved stipulates that Burkina is a democratic and popular republican state. This means that the name of the country is Burkina. But concerning the legal and political form of the country, there is the word "faso" which in a way corresponds to the notion of republic. Henceforth, "faso" means democratic and popular republic. So one must not use Burkina Faso and Burkina indiscriminately. Because Burkina is the name of the country while Faso is its legal and political form, that is an approximate equivalent of republic. So if I want to say that I am going to the former Upper Volta, I will say I am going to Burkina, and not to Burkina Faso because when you go to Ivory Coast, you do not say you are going to the Republic of Ivory Coast. We usually say we are going to Ivory Coast, thus I am going to Burkina. This is why we say Radio Burkina because we have always said Radio Upper Volta and not radio of the Republic of Upper Volta. Henceforth, we have Radio Burkina for Radio Upper Volta. So mixing the two words is quite confusing and can be detrimental.

Now with Burkinabe: There are small problems all the same because it is a noun designating the inhabitants of Burkina. But it seems that no adjective has been found for the adjectival form. Now should we use Burkinabe in both cases? That is, when I speak of a former Upper Voltan airliner, must I say a Burkinabe airliner just as in the case of inhabitants? Or should I say an airliner of Burkina since there is not an adjective? This is where the problem lies. But I think Burkinabe can be used in both cases.

[Bazie] If we refer to Article 1 of the ordinance, it says: the African free territory limited in the north and northwest by the Republic of Mali, in the south by the Republics of Ivory Coast, Ghana, and Benin, in the east and northeast by the Republic of Niger, and which is known as Upper Volta will henceforth be called Burkina Faso. Why is it that the article does not simply say Burkina?

[Lamien] Well, no. This article says Burkina Faso for the mere reason that in naming the other countries it is specified as Republic of Mali, Republic of Ivory Coast, Republics of Ghana, Benin Togo, Republic of Niger. So it is quite normal to say Republic of Burkina, that is Burkina Faso. But if the article said "limited in the north by Mali, and in the south by Ghana," it would simply be Burkina and not Burkina Faso. I think this is quite clear. Unfortunately people misuse these words because it is the beginning. But I think that people will get used to the situation. But it is important to remove these ambiguities all the same so that the confusion does not last long. We have been receiving many messages addressed to the "Popular and Democratic Republic of Burkina Faso." It must be said that the confusion started during the march-past with some placards bearing the name "Popular and Democratic Republic of Burkina Faso" whereas Burkina Faso alone means Popular and Democratic Republic of Burkina.

[Bazie] Looking back at our national reality, we can see that one of our provinces is already called Burkina. Don't you feel this will compound the problem of general confusion?

[Lamien] The confusion in this case can be avoided if you simply specify Burkina Province when you mean the province. This is clear and there can be no confusion with the country Burkina.

Now if it is possible to avoid the confusion by finding another word, this will of course reduce the confusion. But in the long run people will get used to this. [end recording]

PLO To Open Embassy Soon in Ouagadougou

AB071700 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Text] The PLO ambassador in Mali, Mr (Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahim, Abu Raba) also attended the 4 August festivities. Mr (Abu Raba) brought a message of congratulations from Mr Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO executive chairman. He revealed to the press at the end of the audience that a PLO embassy will soon be established in Burkina Faso.

[Begin recording] [(Abu Raba)] I had the honor of being received by Comrade Chairman Thomas Sankara, the chairman of the National Council of the Revolution of Burkina Faso, and to convey to him the congratulations of his brother, Yasir 'Arafat, the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the forces of the Palestinian revolution, and also the congratulations of all the Palestinian people who join the Burkinabe people in these festivities marking the anniversary of 4 August. It was an opportunity to express our support and solidarity with the Burkinabe revolution, and our gratitude for its support for us in the just struggle of the Palestinian people against Zionism, imperialism, and racism. I also had the honor of bringing him a message from Brother Yasir 'Arafat. We were able to discuss many aspects of the fraternal relations that link the two peoples and revolutions. We will soon strengthen our relations with the opening of a PLO embassy in Ouagadougou.

[Unidentified reporter] You have just participated in the 4 August festivities. Can you tell us what impressed you most?

[(Abu Raba)] I was able to observe two very important things, namely, the mobilization of the Burkinabe people firmly behind their revolution and Chairman Comrade Thomas Sankara and the militant spirit of these people displayed against imperialism, neocolonialism, colonialism, racism, and Zionism. It is important to note these things and the degree of the mobilization of these people behind the 4 August revolution.

[Reporter] Do the numerous factions within the PLO not constitute a handicap for the organization in its struggle against Zionism, and can you tell us how the PLO is faring now?

[(Abu Raba)] The PLO is currently faring well and better than it was right after the Zionist invasion and the dissident activity. I can tell you that we have managed to get over this crisis and are now marching toward a new PLO unity which will be strengthened at the PNC meeting to be held in a few weeks time. [end recording]

Upper Voltan Press Agency Changes Name

AB081635 Dakar PANA in French 1655 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Ouagadougou, 6 Aug (AIB/PANA) — The UPPER VOLTAN NEWS AGENCY will henceforth be called the "BURKINA FASO NEWS AGENCY" (AIB). The change came a few days after that of the country's name. According to the ordinance by the Burkinabe head of state, dated 2 August, Burkina is a democratic and popular state with republican status. Faso, the ordinance added, "is the legal and political entity, the inextinguishable hearth wherein blows the vivifying wind of freedom and dignity which restores to the people all their greatness and makes them the ally of all peoples of the world who share the same ideals of freedom and dignity."

GHANA

BBC Report on Plane Incident 'Vicious Fabrication'

AB082114 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The director of civil aviation, Wing Commander (Osabu Kley), has categorically denied as a vicious fabrication a BBC news item that a military aircraft or jet forced down an Air Afrique airliner on a scheduled flight from Lome to Abidjan yesterday. In a statement issued in Accra today, he explained that the pilot of the Air Afrique plane was advised by the control tower at Kotoka International Airport not to continue its flight to Abidjan as it was considered unsafe for the airliner due to loss of Air Force radio contact on ground with military aircraft on exercise in the area. The plane landed on its own accord and was not escorted by any military aircraft whatsoever.

According to Wing Commander (Osabu Kley), as soon as the Air Force reestablished radio contact with the military aircraft, the control tower advised the captain of the airliner to take off. This again without any harassment. He added that the action of the Ghana civil aviation was in accordance with the regulations of the convention of the international civil aviation organization and particularly in the interest of air safety.

MALI

Country Prepares for Currency Exchange Exercise

AB082200 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 7 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Two official notices issued by the secretary general of the party are addressed to all regional governors, all section secretaries general, and local authorities and subdivisional officers. The first notice is related to the currency exchange exercise and the second one to the setting up of village cooperatives.

The economic restructuring and financial reorganization undertaken by the party and the government and aimed at assuring a clear, serene, and advanced future for our socioeconomic development are being pursued with success and deserve careful attention, clarity, and precision from all the militants and especially the authorities.

In the same context, our admission in the UMOA [West African Monetary Union], a positive result of our efforts to face our international commitments with honor and a sense of responsibility, while assuring our subregional solidarity in a concrete manner, should be the object of your vigilance in order to make it a complete success. Thus, in the particular case of the currency exchange exercise, that is the exchange from Malian francs to CFA francs before 31 August 1984, I appeal to you to be mobilized to inform, arouse awareness, and to lead and help the citizens so that everything will go smoothly and swiftly, General Moussa Traore said.

NIGERIA

Dos Santos Stops Over, Gives Cuban Withdrawal Terms

AB081732 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The Angolan president, Eduardo dos Santos, stopped over in Lagos today on his way to Yugoslavia. He was met at the Murtala Mohammed Airport by the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari. The Angolan leader told our airport correspondent that his country and Cuba were prepared to initiate a gradual withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola if South Africa withdrew its military activites in southern Angola. He said that South Africa should also be prepared to accept the UN Resolution 435 as well as stop supporting dissidents in Angola. The president said Angola had always accepted in principle the withdrawal of Cuban troops. President dos Santos said that the compromise reached between Angola and South Africa in Lusaka, Zambia, this year had nothing to do with the liberation struggle in Namibia.

The Angolan leader has since left for Yugoslavia after holding a closed-door meeting with Gen Buhari.

Lagos on U.S. Attitude Toward Apartheid, RSA

AB081752 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Commentary by Ishola Dada]

[Text] Quite amusingly but not totally surprisingly, the U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee last week called for the release of the Black South African nationalist, Nelson Mandela, imprisoned since the past 20 years by the racist government in South Africa ostensibly for treason. The call is amusing because the United States is one of the arch supporters of the South African apartheid government. Not only that, the Reagan administration, strongly backed by Mrs Thatcher's government and Israel, has been the main power supporting the monstrous system known as apartheid today. Without the active moral and material support of these three countries, what we would have been having today would have been the debris of the Pretoria clique. What about South Africa's (?defiance) with impunity of the United Nations with the active support of the Reagan administration and Mrs Thatcher's government or the blatant breaking of the UN sanctions on South Africa with utter disregard for international opinion? The call is, however, not totally surprising in that we recognized that even within and outside the Reagan administration there are certain circles in the United States that have seen the writing on the wall and realized that time is not on their side. They have come to the grim reality that at the end of it all, it is the forces of the truth that would win and apartheid as a system is doomed to fail.

Seen in this perspective, therefore, the resolution of the U.S. Foreign Affairs Committee calling on President Reagan to intervene in South Africa to get Mr Mandela out of the prison is a positive action. But whether this laudable demand will be pursued to its logical conclusion is another story entirely, for this is an election year in the United States and during this period in America it is not uncommon to see candidates and political parties shifting ground on those issues which in normal times would be considered as too sensitive to touch but which suddenly became relevant in electioneering campaigns. For instance, we have noticed in the recent past how new momentum was gathered during election period raising the hope for a better future for the black minority in the United States and especially hope of good relations between the United States and developing African countries. But regrettably, no sooner the election is over than the momentum evaporates. Such was the case a couple of years ago when Jimmy Carter sought and won the U.S. presidency. The movement to get the blacks involved in the running of the state affairs was very strong. Notable among the blacks in the Carter administration was the youthful and outspoken Andrew Young. The movement, however, died down due to lack of purposeful direction and facilitization [as heard] on the part of Mr Carter. The election is around the corner once again and that movement is again gaining grounds with the black American Reverend Jesse Jackson finishing a good third in the race of the Democratic presidential ticket. Although the ticket eluded him, Jesse Jackson put up a good show making his famous rainbow coalition a force to reckon with if ever the Democrats are to present a credible alternative against Ronald Reagan and his team in the November election.

We hope, however, that the initiative taken by the Foreign Affairs Committee of the United States House of Representatives for Mr Mandela's release from prison will not turn out to be just a political gimmick but will be supported by the American Senate and other influential bodies in the United States of America. This is because President Reagan — like the British iron lady, Prime Minister Thatcher — is not known to yield ground so easily on such thorny issues as apartheid in South Africa.

SIERRA LEONE

Arms Cache-Mining Layoffs Connection Denied

AB031945 Paris AFP in English 1848 GMT 3 Aug 84

[Text] Freetown, Aug 3 (AFP) — Bin Rafaah, a Saudi Arabian-owned gold mining company operating in Sierra Leone, has laid off 250 workers weeks after Sierra Leone police found a large arms and ammunition cache in its offices here. However the new managing-director of the firm, 34-year-old Ibrahim Eitani, denied that the lay-offs had anything to do with the illegal arms find, which occurred in late June at the company's headquarters in a village built to house the 1980 summit of the Organization of African Unity. Mr Eitani said the workers had been laid off because of the rainy season, during which the company is "scaling down its operations."

The company earlier had laid off or sacked all 30 of its expatriate West German and U.S. employees, eight of whom were deported on June 25 shortly after the arms were discovered. The arms were made up of 100,000 rounds of ammunition as well as eight rifles, four sub-machine guns, two revolvers and two pistols.

Commenting on the find at a press conference on June 26, Sierra Leone President Siaka Stevens said the arms were "enough to stage three successful coups." Police have been working on the theory that the arms may have been smuggled into the country in containers bringing in mining machinery for Bin Rafaah.

Reacting to criticism here that by bringing in mining equipment before all the preliminary work had been done the company had "put the cart before the horse," Mr Eitani said: "There has not been any complete exploration and no calculations of proven reserves made."

"You have to know what you have before you can cater for it," he said.

"Basically the company's operations have been concentrated on exploration and mobilization work, moving in heavy equipment, building camp sites, dredges, bungalos and offices," he said.

Mr Eitani, who until recently headed the Mining Engineering Department at King Abdul Aziz University in Jidda, Saudi Arabia, said he was unable to reveal exactly how much the company, which was registered here last December, had so far invested in its operations. However, he said the total sum was well over 100 million dollars.

The operations are taking place at Matotoka on the Pampana River some 135 miles (84 kilometers) north of here.

Auditors are currently going through Bin Rafaah's accounts in an effort aimed at "reorganizing the whole operation so far and to set our house in order," Mr Eitani said. He stressed that he had instructions from his boss to employ only Sierra Leone staff in all operations except where the required expertise was not available locally, but said he did not know how many Sierra Leonean workers would be taken on when mining operations begin in the near future.

ANGOLA

UNITA Claims 218 Angolans, 13 Cubans, 2 Soviets Killed

NC082012 Paris AFP in English 1955 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Lisbon, Aug 8 (AFP) — The rebel National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) said today its forces had killed 218 Angolan Government soldiers, 13 of its Cuban allies and two Soviet advisers in operations between July 30 and August 7 in eight Angolan provinces.

A communique received here also said that UNITA troops had captured Ganda and Bela Vista, in the Provinces of Benguela and Huambo respectively, and taken prisoner 12 government soldiers along with two Portuguese civilians and a German.

UNITA guerrillas captured weapons and destroyed 15 vehicles, including three armoured cars, the communique said. UNITA losses were 23 dead, 51 wounded and five missing.

The operations took place in the Provinces of Moxico and Lunda in the northeast, Uige to the northeast of Luanda, Luanda and Kwanza Norte to the east of the capital, Benguela and Huambo in the centre south, and Kuando Kubango in the south.

FNLA Leader Reports More Clashes With SWAPO

MB081245 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1142 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Windhoek, Aug 8, SAPA — Armed forces of the FNLA [Angola National Liberation Front] resistance movement in Angola were becoming increasingly involved in clashes with SWAPO insurgents in the north of that country, the FNLA leader, Mr Holden Roberto, was quoted as saying by the SWABC [South-West Africa Broadcasting Corporation].

According to a radio news report in Windhoek today, Mr Roberto said the introduction of the joint monitoring commission between South Africa and Angola had resulted in SWAPO insurgents having to be trained farther north from Angola's border with SWA/Namibia.

Speaking at his home in Washington, Mr Roberto said Angola's regular FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] forces were employing SWAPO in fights against the FNLA.

The SWABC reported him as saying that many SWAPO leaders were being manipulated by the Soviet Union to promote communist imperialism.

Mr Roberto said any effort toward peaceful independence in SWA/Namibia would fail because of Cuba's armed presence in Angola.

The FNLA wanted the Cubans out of Angola and free democratic elections under international supervision after the situation in the country had stabilised.

Mr Roberto said the FNLA had repeatedly asked the United States to bring about a Cuban withdrawal from Angola.

The FNLA presently consisted of 7,000 armed men and a further 30,000 men could be made "combat ready" if the movement had the necessary armaments.

He emphasised that he was not interested in a merger with Angola's UNITA rebel movement of Dr Jonas Savimbi.

The FNLA, UNITA and Cabinda enclave's FLEC [Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave] movements have been fighting the ruling MPLA Government of Luanda which came to power in the former Portuguese colony after independence in 1975.

BOTSWANA

Police Arrest 3 Suspected 'Terrorists' Fleeing RSA

MB081430 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The office of President Quett Masire of Botswana has announced in Gaborone that the three suspected terrorists who entered Botswana after a skirmish with the South African Police on Friday have been arrested. The men were armed with AK-47 assault rifles.

Police Commissioner General Johan Coetzee announced on Monday that the police have shot dead a suspected terrorist in the Ellisras area on Friday after he had thrown a hand grenade at them. His three companions fled to Botswana. Two blacks wounded in the skirmish are in a satisfactory condition.

The statement issued in Gaborone said the Botswana Police arrested the three armed men on Sunday and they are being held at Chadibe, near the South African border. Their rifles are of Soviet origin.

MADAGASCAR

Soviet Union Opens Consulate in Toamasina

AB081700 Paris AFP in French 1523 GMT 6 Aug 84

[Text] Antananarivo, 6 Aug (AFP) — The first consulate general of the Soviet Union in the Malagasy Republic was officially opened on Saturday in Toamasina (formerly Tamatave), a Malagasy port on the east-central coast, in the presence of Malagasy Foreign Minister Jean Bemananjara, the Malagasy news agency "ANTA" has announced. Recalling that "the sovereignty of states is a principle that must be respected," Mr Bemananjara also stated, according to "ANTA," that "the detractors of Eastern countries should wait for results before judging."

SOUTH AFRICA

Spokesman Comments on Arms for Mozambique

MB090612 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] A spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs has reaffirmed the statement made by the minister of defense in the House of Assembly on 18 May in which General Malan said that no arms or equipment which were denied to South Africa as a result of the arms boycott would be supplied to Mozambique.

Recently there has been speculation that Mozambique is receiving such support. Gen Malan said in the debate on his budget vote that South Africa could not be expected to deploy weapons to the benefit of another country which it could not resupply because of the arms boycott. It had been decided to supply Mozambique with other logistical support to help it guard the powerline on its side of the border. Thus, it had been decided to supply the guardians of the Cahora Bassa line with medical supplies, rations, vehicles, and other logistical support for the joint accounts of the two countries. Some of the support has already been delivered.

The department says the protection of the Cahora Bassa powerline is one of the subjects which received the continuous attention of the joint security commission established in terms of the Nkomati Accord. It says there is nothing further to add to what is contained in communiques issued after meetings of the commission.

Self-Governing Status for KaNgwane Approved

MB081257 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The Cabinet has decided to grant a request by the KaNgwane legislative assembly for self-governing status for KaNgwane. This announcement was made by the outgoing minister of cooperation and development, Dr Piet Koornhof, in a statement issued in Pretoria. He said self-governing status would be given to KaNgwane at the earliest possible date. The necessary administrative steps would now be taken and the spokesman for Dr Koornhof's department said this would mean that KaNgwane would now be able to have its own cabinet and would enjoy greater autonomy, such as KwaZulu and the other national states.

Dr Koornhof, who announced his retirement from the Cabinet in the House of Assembly last night, said the position of blacks outside the national states was the only remaining problem in the country which needed to be solved. He said strong foundations had already been laid for the country's new dispensation to include blacks and determine their role in the decisionmaking process. Dr Koornhof said one of the biggest disappointments of his career has been the resettlement of blacks. He said although he had been opposed to the resettlements, more than 20 cases of resettlement were still to come. In most instances they had been unavoidable.

Heunis, Nel, Treunicht Comment On Reform

MB090615 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Text] The minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, has made a plea for the various groups in the country to stand together to bring about reform. Speaking at a meeting in Uvongo, he said this was necessary to ensure that groups did not dominate one another. Mr Heunis said reform should happen in a fair and constitutional way. Adjustments would be difficult, but there was no flinching from them.

The deputy minister of foreign affairs, Mr Louis Nel, says the changed circumstances will make higher demands of the country's future leaders. Speaking at the Rand Afrikaans University, he said the comprehensive constitutional changes meant challenges which would make the greatest demands of leaders who would have to act without hate, enmity, or racist emotions.

The leader of the Conservative Party [CP], Dr Treunicht, says South Africa's democracy did not come to an end with last year's referendum. He said the CP would continually endeavor in a democratic manner to change the new constitution. Opening the Free State congress of the CP in Bloemfontein, Dr Treunicht said the party had accepted the fact that the country had come to the end of an era in its political and constitutional history. He said the country could not return to exactly the same political dispensation that existed before the referendum, as the demand for self-determination by the Coloreds and Indians could not be ignored. The whites and the CP also did not want to continue ruling other peoples.

Controversy in Indian, Colored Elections Reported

MB081044 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] A candidate for the Indian election has presented a highly controversial manifesto. National People's Party [NPP] candidate Ramanam Sita Ram has listed as one of his achievements helping the police to implement pass laws. The NPP candidate for the Claire Estate constituency says that as a result of his efforts more than 200 blacks were arrested by police, 163 of them for pass laws offenses. Sita Ram says there had been a group of black people living illegally in bushes near Claire Estate, and at the same time he says there were a spate of robberies and assaults in the area. In his words: I have to protect my people. The leader of the NPP, Amichand Rajbansi, says he prefers not to comment on the matter. Meanwhile, a senior candidate for the Colored elections has called on the government to scrap the elections. Leader of the People's Congress Party [PCP] Peter Marais says the elections should be called off until an accurate voter's role for the Colored house of representatives elections can be provided. A top University of Cape Town research institute has found that discrepancies in registrations have opened the way for, in their words, massive electoral fraud. Several parties disclosed yesterday that there were cases of duplications and registrations of dead people of the current voter's role. Marais says the elections are a rushed job and he questions the sincerity of the government's to see Colored people in parliament.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Congratulates Mobutu on Reelection

MB080855 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] President Kaunda sent a message of congratulations to Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko yesterday on his landslide victory of 99.16 percent in the recently ended Zairian elections. Dr Kaunda said in the message that the people of Zaire had once again displayed their maturity and determination to live in peace and harmony under President Mobutu Sese Seko's wise leadership. He wished the Zairian leader continued personal good health and prosperity and hoped that with his reelection the Zairian people and their Zambian counterparts would continue to live in peace and achieve it successfully,

ZIMBABWE

Second ZANU-PF National Congress Underway

MB081121 Harare Domestic Service in English 1003 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] The historic Second ZANU National Congress got underway today with the [party] president, Comrade Robert Mugabe, who is also the prime minister. The majority of the expected 6,000 local delegates arrived in Harare yesterday and went straight to Borrowdale to register. There are over 250 invited guests from abroad including Dr Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, Comrade Samora Machel of Mozambique, and Dr Quett Masire of Botswana. Observers from over 50 foreign countries are attending. So too are solidarity groups from Switzerland, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, and Denmark. At least six liberation movements have also sent observers. These include ANC and PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] of South Africa, SWAPO of Namibia, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, the PLO, and [words indistinct]. The stands at the court are packed. One can hardly find a place to move.

Before presenting the Central Committee report, which is still in the process of reading, the party president, Comrade Robert Mugabe, introduced and thanked the frontline leaders present and the DPRK vice president for their support of the Zimbabwe liberation movement. Zimbabweans, Comrade Mugabe said, have a tradition that was evinced in the two chimurenges [wars of liberation]. Before the earlier political movements, there were unions oriented towards the correction of social and economic grievances, but even those early political movements emphasized the question of constitutional conference in Britain as the principle means of attaining independence, an emphasis that ZANU, when it was formed in 1963, rejected to one of confrontation policy or armed struggle.

The party's confrontation policy was contained in a 5-point master plan to be changed to a 16-point master plan after the party's first congress in Gweru in May 1964. The confrontation policy was given weight by several acts of sabotage against the Rhodesian Front between 1964 and 1968. Between 1968 and 1974 the Central Committee was enlarged as the war front also grew. At the same time those people like Ndabaningi Sithole, who were ineffective, were denounced. Between 1978 and 1980 there was total mobilization of the masses leading to large military gains by ZANLA combatants. Finally the Lancaster House talks and subsequently independence. [sentence as heard]

The Central Committee report continues and will touch on issues including the party's success and failures since independence and future principles and facts for socio-economic development. This afternoon, after the Central Committee report, invited guests will be given time to present messages of solidarity, which may be continued tomorrrow morning. The report will be debated in a closed session tomorrow afternoon. This is (David Mwenga) reporting from Borrowdale.

Mugabe Presents CC Report

MB081630 Harare Domestic Service in English 1108 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Central Committee report presented by Robert Mugabe, prime minister and ZANU-PF president, to the second ZANU-PF national congress held at Borrowdale Park, Harare — live or recorded]

[Text] [Words indistinct] representatives of the people, elected on the basis of one man, one vote. These 50 (?councils) are autonomous local authorities, with a wide range of powers to effect programs of development in their areas of jurisdiction. [Words indistinct] democratization, progress, and resulted in most urban councils having for the first time black mayors and chairmen. As of now, legislation is in the pipeline for the amalgamation of district and rural councils so that, for every administrative district there will be one local authority.

More recently, government has initiated a comprehensive scheme for the promotion of provincial development and the coordination of that vital (?project). The posts of provincial governor have been created for each of the eight provinces in the country, for the purpose of coordinating the developmental functions of the various ministries. The provincial councils comprise representatives of rural district councils, urban councils, provincial assembly of chiefs, provincial representatives of youth and women's organizations, and a member of the ruling party. The chairman of each provincial council is the provincial governor. Provincial heads of ministeries and representatives of local authorities form part of the provincial development committees, under the chairmanship of the provincal administrator.

Comrades, the work of our party and government in the political sphere over the last 4 years has also encompassed an important dimension — to strengthen our relations with other (?state) members of the international community. The foreign policy propounded and [word indistinct] pursued by the people's government has been [words indistinct] professing and projecting their interests of the broad masses of Zimbabwe on the international stage. An analysis of Zimbabwe's foreign policy and the manner in which it has been implemented will reveal that our success stems largely from the highly principled and very consistent approach we have adopted from the outset to all matters of international interest and concern. As I have stated above, this policy has been no more than a consistent projection on the international stage of the interests of the broad masses of Zimbabwe. Of course, this consistency of approach and adherence to principles is nothing new, for these are qualities which have come to characterize and [words indistinct] of ZANU and its leadership — qualities which have secured for the ZANU government not only the confidence and loyalty of the masses of Zimbabwe, but also the respect and admiration of those members of the international community who [words indistinct] and aspirations.

Our foreign policy reflects our love for and belief in mankind as a whole, and our commitment to the achievement of freedom, justice, and equality for all. Our [words indistinct] experiences as the subjugated, oppressed people have led us to actively identify with all those who suffer under the (?yokes) of colonialism, racism, and imperialism [word indistinct] throughout the world.

Our commitment to the liberation struggle for freedom, independence, and nationhood in racist South Africa, Namibia, and Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic, in Palestine, East Timor, and elsewhere is well known and forms a fundamental aspect of our foreign policy. We accept it as a part of our international obligation to promote the liberation of all oppressed mankind, no matter which part of the world they may be from. Our commitment to the preservation of world peace and elimination of the weapons of mass destruction have placed us firmly in the nonaligned and anti-imperialist camp. We therefore have worked ceaselessly to promote peace, international cooperation, and dialogue, and the elimination of the threat and use of force in the relations among states. In the same vein, we have condemned and deplored the nuclear arms race, encompassing, as it does, the development of weapons which threaten to incinerate all mankind and bring our human civilization to an end.

We have, therefore, consistently called on the nuclear powers to stop the production of these weapons and gainfully negotiate for the reduction of those they already have, and ultimately to eliminate these instruments of [words indistinct]. Our foreign policy also includes the aspects of our commitment to the establishment of a (?more equitable) international economic order, one in which the poorer states will have an equal say and opportunity to influence the management of internatinal finance, particularly where this affects the disposal of their own precious natural resources and the acquisition of loans and international financial assistance.

Comrades, the [words indistinct] of Zimbabwe's foreign policy in the continent of Africa is (?wide), and more particularly in the southern African subregion, an area which is dominated by the specter of apartheid, racist South Africa's continuing illegal occupation of Namibia, and Pretoria's on-going campaign of military and economic destabilization of the subregion as a whole.

Our geographical proximity to South Africa, coupled with [words indistinct] between that country and Zimbabwe [words indistinct] to upset the relationship with South Africa, which we would rather not have to endure. Some of our brothers have criticized us for this attitude and choose to regard it as a negation of the ideals for which we fought. To these comrades of ours I can only [words indistinct] able to choose who their friends are, they are privileged to elect who their neighbors should be. History and geography see to that. However, the relationship we have with our powerful southern neighbor, such as it is, in no way affects our political stand, both as a nation and through the OAU, against the abhorrent apartheid system or, indeed, our stated [words indistinct] negation of UN Security Council Resolution 435 on the Namibia independence plan, as well as our condemnation of Pretoria's aggression against, and destabilization of, its neighbors. In addition, we have been constant in our support, as members of the OAU, of the ANC, (?for African and SWAPO liberation) movements in their struggle against the Pretoria regime.

Yet another aspect of our foreign policy, as it relates to southern Africa, is the slow but sure increase being effected in intraregional cooperation through the work of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, SADCC. In a similar vein, the activities of the Preferential Trade Area for eastern and southern Africa, PTA, have now resulted in the establishment of mechanisms designed to facilitate trade and commercial dealings within and among the member states. But the rising economic dependence upon South Africa remains a fact for the moment. It is also true that our collective activities within SADCC and the PTA have led, and will continue to lead, towards greater regional cooperation and unity, and, more significantly, towards the gradual lessening of that dependence.

Further afield, Zimbabwe since independence has committed itself to an increasingly active participation in a number of international organizations, most notably the OAU, the Commonwealth, the Nonaligned Movement, and the United Nations. We have taken every available opportunity not only to increase our knowledge and experience at such forums, but also to add to the international awareness and understanding of our own situation and that of our fellow frontline and regional states in southern Africa.

I believe the general goodwill towards Zimbabwe and Zimbabweans within the international community is well demonstrated when one looks at the number of prestigous positions to which our ministers and all representatives at the [words indistinct] are appointed within a number of international organizations. These include our election in 1981 to the position of chairman of the OAU Council of Ministers and of the OAU Liberation Committee. Our current chairmanship of the PTA Commission in southern Africa, the position of the executive secretary of SADCC, to which two Zimbabweans [words indistinct] Arthur Blumeris, and then Comrade Simba Makoni has been appointed. And of course our 2-year's (?experience) as a nonpermanent member of the United Nations Security Council. A great honor indeed for a nation which at that time was barely 2 and 1/2 years old.

Another significant indication of importance with which our young nation is viewed by the international community and the respect held for the foreign policies we have (?chosen to pursue) is the large number of foreign countries and international organizations which have now established embassies in Harare. The foreign diplomatic school represented in Zimbabwe constitutes one of the largest in Africa, and continues to grow with each month that passes. Today, 70 countries and international organizations have established relations with Zimbabwe, and (?63) of them have offices in Harare. In our [word indistinct] and with due regard for the need to maintain a correct geographical, political, and idiological balance in our representation abroad, we have now established 27 missions in various city centers throughout the world. I would also draw your attention to the increasing number of important international conferences and meetings being held in Harare, and indeed in other center within Zimbabwe.

Quite apart from this distinguished gathering, we have also had the honor to play host to a long list of highly respected and well loved international leaders, foremost among them the heads of state of all the frontline countries, our brothers and comrades in arms during the long and bitter struggle for freedom here. The elder statesmen and world figures who have honored us with their presence are far too numerous for me to name individually, but as Zimbabweans will know, there have been, indeed, very many, a fact which so clearly indicates the high esteem in which our young nation is held within the international family of nations.

We, too, that is both the party and its government, have been invited and very warmly welcomed by many different nations of varied political and ideological leanings. It is in that consistency, and in our continuing determination to remain masters of our own destiny, that our strength and indeed our protection lies. For by adhering to what we believe in, and what we know to be true, we can never be bought or sold, we can never be coerced or blackmailed. Above all, we will remain true to our goals and faithful to the glorious revolution upon which our nation, our peace, and well-being today are founded.

That revolution to which I have referred, dear Comrades, has also, indeed first and foremost, expressed itself by way of government's many initiatives [words indistinct] the transformation of a colonial capitalist economy inherited at independence, and a provision of essential social services to the broad masses of our people, who for many a year had endured the torture and pain of colonialist exploitation and repression. Zimbabwe's economy at independince was, and to a considerable extent is, characterized by [words indistinct] a sophisticated and modern foodstuffs [words indistinct] minority enjoying a high standard of living, who before independence relied on the supply of cheap black labor and resources appropriated from the indigenous populace, while the majority were engaged chiefly in subsistence agriculture in the generally infertile tribal trust lands, or participated in the modern sector in poorly paid unskilled and semiskilled jobs in white enterprises and commercial farms.

Social services and infrastructure in black areas or the urban townships and city were minimal and poor. As it is vital for the tranformation of the economy and the development of productive forces in the service of the masses, government issued an economic policy statement [words indistinct] in 1981 and followed it up with a formulation of the transitional national development plan which was (?for the) 1982-83 to 1984-85 years. In addition, government set up several commissions or committees of inquiry to examine the situation in given sectors of the economy with a view to recommending policy later for adoption by government for the services of our people. Among these were the commission of inquiry into incomes, prices, and conditions of service proparly known as the [words indistinct] commission, and the commission of inquiry into the agricultural industry.

The central thrust and object of government policy has been and remains the achievement of a socialist egalitarian and fully democratic society in Zimbabwe. We seek to transform the [words indistinct] and existing social relations of production in favor of the oppressed masses of our 1-party state. This process of transformation, however, is to [word indistinct] the realities of our society at this historical juncture. Transformation, we fully realize, is not a mechanical process, nor can it take place overnight, as stated in our transitional national development plan, and I quote: The underlying philosophy of the transitional national development plan is that the structure of property relationships [words indistinct] Zimbabwe in order to create the basis of a socialist order. This goal cannot be attained overnight, but the physical process of achieving the correct relationship between the masses and the means of production [words indistinct] itself, must be accompanied by vigorous programs of training, and the ideological and political [word indistinct] in order to provide such policies as are necessary to the transformed structure of property relations as will enhance and maximize [words indistinct] productivity, unquote.

Our nation's economy has over the last 4 years been subjected to various stresses and strains but has maintained a remarkable resilience through the years 1980-81, and 1981-82 [words indistinct] in the sense that virtually all sectors performed remarkably well and the [words indistinct] gross domestic product rose by 11 percent, and 12 percent in real terms respectively. However, the last 2 years, and, in the case of agriculture, the last 3 years, have been difficult ones due to several factors, principally the devastating world recession and the unrelenting drought. In consequence, the prices of our raw materials on world markets have declined drastically, and our balance of payments position has been under severe pressure. In the light of these and related factors, the growth rate of our gross domestic product has declined. Employment has remained static or has grown worse, and we have been forced to take drastic emergency measures, such as the importation of corn and beef from various foreign countries.

In spite of the economic problems, government, however, has made significant strides in the implementation of the programs embarked on at independence. With respect to the agricultural sector, we have restored with vigor our policy of land resettlement which is designed to provide thousands of our people with the means and opportunity of improving their lot through agriculture, preferably on a cooperative basis. We have also provided this sector with many of its requirements, including rehabilitation and expansion of the infrastructure, the provision of (?extensive services), grazing facilities and [word indistinct]. These (?programs) have been directed mainly to our communal land at the present (?nature).

The cooperative movement to which I have referred has also been enormously fruitful and given a boost by the energy and enthusiasm of the thousands of our ex-combatants, youth, and members of the party, with the women's league and women's league staff who have embraced wholeheartedly the party's goals to form popularly [word indistinct] cooperatives. Indeed, these cooperative are [word indistinct] sectors of the economy, including mining and manufacturing.

In the field of natural resources and tourism the party's government has proved successful both locally and internationally. We have advanced legislation in terms of which of our people will now participate fully in the conservation and planned exploitation of our natural resources. And the recently formed Zimbabwe Tourist Development Corporation is well geared to develop our tourist industry. [Words indistinct] infrastructure, roads, railways, power supply facilities and so on, and the provision of that vital resource, water. [Words indistinct] program of dam construction, borehole drilling, and related schemes.

Government has also promoted and expanded the public sector significantly. Government has either taken over or has established significant participance in various enterprizes in agriculture, (?banking), manufacturing, mining, [words indistinct], transport, and [word indistinct]. In addition, the people's government [words indistinct] the economy have [words indistinct] and also conscious of the fact that we are the most exploited class in society undertook, firstly, to improve working conditions and institute minimum wages immediately after independence; secondly, to [words indistinct] and organization of workers [words indistinct] immediately after independence government made serious efforts to assist in the formation of the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions, ZCTU, to bring together various unions under its umbrella [words indistinct]; thirdly, we encouraged the formation of workers' committees as a means of democratizing decisionmaking and thus giving power to the worker; fourthly, to improve industrial relations, security, and the welfare of the worker; fifthly, accelerating training and improved skills of the workers to meet our urgent manpower requirements [words indistinct] to us by an uncaring colonialist as reflected in government's very successful manpower survey.

With respect to social services, government has [words indistinct] to improve the lot of our people, particularly the peasants and workers. I can do no more than outline systematically and illustratively the gains made in this field during the brief period under review. In turn, I might add, they have been made despite the constraints caused by limitation of resources, manpower, and adverse economic conditions.

In the sphere of education, we moved from the very outset to abolish the racist educational system which favored the white minority over the African majority in special facilities, allocation of resources, personnel, and even the curricula. Government has been increasing in its provision of a [words indistinct] financial resources for the expansion and improvement of the education of our people. Indeed, education is the largest single item in our national budget today. Free primary education was introduced in 1980. Secondary education has been made available to all who successfully complete Grade 7 and wish to proceed further. The curricula has been significantly transformed, particularly at the primary and early secondary level to reflect our new political order and ideological orientation, as well as to emphasize the [words indistinct]. Plans are afoot to localize the O and A level examinations. Furthermore, the vastly increased number of schools and pupil enrollment bear testimony to government achievements in education. In primary education, the original 2,411 schools have increased to 4,161, a percentage increase of 73. Enrollment in schools was 819,586 in 1979 and has now risen to 2.5 million [words indistinct] schools. Secondary education which was reserved for only 12.5 percent of the Grade 7 pupils is now available to almost all Grade 7 graduates. At independence there were 177 secondary schools which only could take 1,216 pupils, but now there are 1,139 secondary schools, a 548 percent growth, with 423,584 pupils, also a growth. To crown it all, government has for the first time established 54 government rural secondary schools. All this expansion has increased the number of teachers from 32,017 to 69,058, a percentage growth of 214. In order to cope with the massive [words indistinct] in secondary expansion, teacher education programs are now available to more young Zimbabweans. At independence, 2,018 students were enrolled in primary teacher education. Today the figure stands at 4,075, a growth of 106 percent. In like manner, students in secondary teachers' colleges have increased from 833 to 3,209. To the unqualified teachers, the Zimbabwe Intergrated [words indistinct] teacher education course offers an attractive avenue for achieving professional qualifications. I perhaps should also remind you, dear comrades, that under colonialism there was no literacy campaign for the 2.5 million illiterate adults. Today, over 250,000 adults are [words indistinct], and over 500,000 reading materials have been produced to assist in the eradication of illiteracy. [all figures as heard]

Similarly, with regard to health, Zimbabwe inherited a health [word indistict] system which was characterized by inequalities both in terms of health status and health [words indistinct] was total injustice in that 80 percent of the public catered for the privileged 20 percent of the urban-based population. There was maladministration of resources to the extent that the majority of our people had no access to any form of health care. Faced with the injustices with the (?ineptitudes) and the dichotomies inherent in the old health care system, it became imperative that we formulate new policies based on the party manifesto. Consequent to the government's repealing of the hospital services act which legislated for all the [words indistinct] right from the onset. The repealing of this act made it possible for all the health institutions in the country to become fully multiracial. In the [word indistinct] Hospital and the United Hospital opened their doors to blacks for the first time in 1980. More significantly, we made welfare free for all those earning less than 150 dollars per month. Government also adopted the primary health care approach which [words indistinct] all our people, particularly in the rural areas, to have access to health services, both preventive and curative. In addition to [words indistinct] systematically set about promoting the development of our youth and women so that they can take their rightful place in our society and the various processes of progressive transformation. [Words indistinct] to set up two ministries to provide for necessary governmental machinery and resources for use in the transformation of the status and role of our young people and women in the overall national struggle for a new socio-economic order.

Now to [words indistinct]. In this regard, I have already referred to the role of the youth and women in the cooperative movements and other socially productive activities. Thousands of our youth have been organized into youth brigades [words indistinct]. Thousands of them are undergoing training in various skills training centers run by the Ministry of Youth, Sports, and Culture. For its part, the Ministery of Community Development and Women's Affairs is not only spearheading the course of [words indistinct] to which I have already made reference, it has also played a pivotal role in mobilizing the people to participate in income-generating projects based on cooperative models which have included crafts, [words indistinct] and many other economically important [word indistinct] projects and activities.

Comrades, portraying this record of achievement in the economic and social fields, we can proudly proclaim that Zimbabwe is fully on the march. Recession and droughts there have been, but our economy has not collapsed. Temporary regressions have been experienced [words indistinct] our transitional national development plan has not been fully realized. But we have held our own against great odds. Indeed, we have forged ahead to promote state and cooperative enterprise to effect state participation in strategic sectors of the economy and improve the lot of the worker and transform the social circumstances of the peasant. In short, we have gone a long way in laying the foundation for our socialist transformation.

Comrades, it should not be forgotten that all the political victory and some of the achievements (?at places) have been achieved against the background of the Constitution, the Lancaster House constitution, that was imported to limit and control our political initiative, not to mention our official [word indistinct] objectives. It has been through a complication of the political mandate given to us by the people on 4 March 1980, and the political dexterity of the party and government, that we have been able to overcome constitutional constraints on the political and other fronts. While [word indistinct] I look forward (?more than) at the forthcoming general election to [word indistinct] as a nation of the support than I am asking of them and has given us in the Zimbabwean struggle for independence and in the last four years. With such a mantle we shall no doubt proceed towards the full attainment of our political goal — the establishment of a 1-party state and the fulfillment of socialist revoulution. [song on the establishment of a one-party state]

We thank all for the entertainment, and all the delegates who attended the second ZANU-PF national congress joining me in singing. [Mugabe speaks in Shona] [passage indistinct with English summary of Mugabe statement by commentator]

[Mugabe in English] The brief review of the performance of the economy in the past has shown that for reasons mostly beyond our control a number of subjects were not met, in particular, in the years 1982 to 1983 and 1983 to 1984. The development of the next 5-year plan, which is now in its initial development, will therefore include intial stages of planning, will therefore include what was not fulfilled during the transitional national development plan. With these objectives we are now in a position to improve the development of science and technology on the basis of a survey on science and technology carried out in 1983-84. It is essential that we include this objective in future medium- and long-term plans through science and technology, (?heavy work) and uplift all sectors of the economy. It will also be necessary to articulate more clearly the objectives of socialist transformation. The strategy for the medium-term plan will be consist of the following elements:

1. Increasing the degree of local ownership and control of the means of production both through [word indistinct]. This will be done with the view of transforming the ownership structure of the means of producton. While some actions are (?dictating) what has to be done, faced with circumstances as today, (?have rather dictated) that government concentrate on the provision of social and the development of infrastructure.

Our strategy will, however, have to put greater emphasis than hitherto on the promotion of self-sufficiency through strategic industry and the establishment of new ones managed by the state and by cooperatives. The state will place greater emphasis on the development of such key subsectors as the chemicals, including fertilizers, engineering, and other capital goods industry. In addition, a great deal of attention will be paid to the creation and consolidation of a sound science and technology base as an integral aspect of our industrial development program. Industrial expansion must necessarily be accompanied by the development of attitudes fostered by power. In this regard, government will push vigorously to realize the objectives, the objectives spread out through the transitional national development plan, with respect to all these key factors. This would not only involve the development of new and renewable sources of energy, but also the development and expansion of the existing [word indistinct] power, electrical power, both hydro and thermal.

That way we can also speed up rural electrification, a side of this strategy for raising the standard of living of the masses. In this connection, therefore, to receive [word indistinct] has further charged 3 million dollars for rural electrification in 1984-85. The first phase will involve bringing power to 35 rural sites, which will form the core for rural development. On another front, it is realized that a certain fragmented structure of the power supply industry presents several problems and inadequacies, basically emanating from lack of centralized control of the industry as a whole. The national unified power supply industry, Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority, ZESA, will soon be established as a framework within which problems facing the power supply industry will be tackled.

Soon we are increasing the manufacturing sector's capacity to its full. At present most of our exports consist of raw materials originating in the mining and agricultural sectors. The manufacturing sector accounts for only 6 percent of the country's total export. Government will take positive measures aimed at reversing this trend, because the manufacturing sector is really the greatest consumer of foreign currency, and yet it [words indistinct]. This is feasible if sufficient resources are allocated for the development of chemical and engineering industry, and for the development of science and technology. This strategy includes funelling major proportions of raw materials into the manufacturing sector. It is pertinent in this connection to note that government is making arrangements for the establishment of a state trading corporation, which will be empowered to undertake both export and import transactions. The corporation will not only be involved in procuring goods and commodities from local and foreign suppliers, but will also be able to sell them on the local market at wholesale and retail levels.

(?3). To promote the use of scientific farming methods, in particular in communal and resettlement areas. At present, only a small proportion of our farmers have adopted scientific methods of farming. Most of the peasants in communal areas still engage in subsistence farming only for lack of capital and technical know-how. Therefore, the promotion of scientific methods of farming has been aimed primarily at raising productivity in communal and resettlement areas. As most of the population resides in most communal areas [words indistinct]. In order to create a suitable environment for raising productivity, therefore, the population in these areas will be reduced to the appropriate carrying capacity dependent on the basis of available arable land and the farming technology to be introduced in the area. The reduction in population [word indistinct] through resettlement and industrial development, particularly at rural service centers, growth points, and [words indistinct].

4. Full mobilization and technical (?utilization) of human resources for national development. Throughout history it is the people who have got to put a dynamic positive force behind material, cultural, and social development. That is what we say in the transitional national development plan. And so we continue to [word indistinct] who must provide this essential model force [word indistinct]. So, we remain convinced of the soundness of this [word indistinct]. Some progress has been made on this front over the last 4 years. As we [word indistinct] the formation of workers' committees has made to worker [word indistinct] of the process of production and its relation to expansion of (?educational) systems and training programs of thousands of [word indistinct] of additional workers and youth and community programs, have also helped [words indistinct] in the production and distribution of activities in a meaningful way. Some of these programs have [word indistinct] some degree of conciousness in the masses, completing the [words indistinct] systems the state is going to build.

During the current period beginning in 1985, government will make concerted efforts at intensifying implementation of its strategy by reform of taxation, [words indistinct] monetary system, the results and recommendations of the [word indistinct] commission of [words indistinct] which have been set up, and of an anticipated similar exercise in financial and monetary issues to enable government to formulate and implement [word indistinct] policy and measures to adapt this system to the new social order. In organization of line management one of the major tasks which government will undertake during the next (?plan) period is the establishment of a planning machinery whose main purpose is to facilitate the planning process. The machinery will include in its committees and councils all key elements of society, including village, district, province, ministry, and the private sector. One of the most important (?aspects) of the planning machinery is that it makes possible participation by all sectors of society in the planning process in a systematic way. [Words indistinct] planning machinery is presently being examined by ZANU.

Comrades, the strategy of the (?medium-term) plan, 1985-86 to 1989-90 outlined above contains elements which, if implemented and pursued vigorously as a long-term strategy, will generate employment opportunities and reduce external dependence as well as increase the export of surplus labor. [Word indistinct] a strategy intended to create a national economy, expand the production of [word indistinct], and fully mobilize the resources of the nation. In this way our goal of raising the standard of living of the people will no longer be an idle dream. The nature of tactics and strategies outlined above are realized though organizational ministries and government agencies. Therefore the proposed (?new) programs and projects which government plans to implement through the various ministries and agencies during the next plan period, and these are not [word indistinct] programs but only outlines.

Improving the status of the worker in the field of labor, the government, in clear recognition of the dignity of labor and the decisive role of workers in the economy has direct [word indistinct] and also conscious of the fact that they have suffered [words indistinct] infrastructural programs designed a) to further strengthen the labor movement through labor education and the establishment of one union per industry to be affiliated to the ZCTU; b) to increase production and productivity through quick resolution of disputes between workers and employers, and also among workers themselves; c) to reduce unemployment through programs for employment generation, especially for people such as laid-off workers with usable skills, disabled ex-combatants, and the informal sector; d) enhance healthier working conditions for the workers through intensified occupational safety [words indistinct] and the provision of worker compensation in the event of work-related accidents; e) extend and democratize social security and pension schemes to cover all ranks of the labor force.

In the field of social welfare the government intends to intensify programs designed at [word indistinct] a) to coordinate the training and participation of the disabled currently carried out by several uncoordinated organizations; b) to protect and look after orphans and abandoned children through legal adoption and [word indistinct] formal institutions; c) to resettle and rehabilitate [words indistinct], vagrants, and other social misfits; and d) to develop to (?reasonable) capacity to cope with any natural or man-made national disasters that may occur.

In agriculture, government remains steadfast in its commitment to the principle of food self-sufficiency. To this end, it will expand and implement projects and programs to raise crop and livestock production.

Government intends to extend credit facilities to the peasant farmer through the agricultural finance cooperation, and to facilitate the marketing of produce. More marketing depots will be established close to the farmer. The cotton marketing board, the grain marketing board, the dairy marketing board, and the cold storage commission will establish more depots close to where the producers are in order to cut down on transport costs, and increase the level of returns to the producer.

In the field of resettlement and rural development, in regard to resettlement and rural development, government remains committed with policies of acquiring land and allocation to those who will need it for productive use. As we continue to acquire more land for redistribution, our main thrust in land redistribution and resettlement will be on collective and cooperative use of land.

On its part, the government will also set aside land for the establishment of state farms. Government is aware that rural development on socialist lines suffered drawbacks arising from lack of the skilled and political consciousness among the rural community.

To facilitate and to speed up rural development along socialist lines, government will engage in a program of mass education on the principles, management, and establishment of cooperatives. To this end, we will establish a cooperative college where we will train management cadres to run cooperatives and state farms. These (?cadred) people will also train the cooperatives in the essential fields and attitudes neccessary to run the successful cooperative [word indistinct].

Further, government will also establish a cooperative bank as well as a national cooperative insurance scheme to ensure that the cooperators have easy access to reliable and sympathetic funding and other resources for their cooperatives.

In its own capacity, the government will establish state farms and agroindustries which, in addition to providing and creating employment, will also contribute directly towards national food self-sufficiency and foreign currency earnings. Agroindustries will engage in the processing of raw agricultural products into finished marketable goods.

Water development: In the field of water development, government is preparing a national master plan. The main objective of this is the development of water resources and supplies for villages, rural service centers, and [words indistinct]. The main aim is to improve the quality of life for the people in these settlements, and to make life in the communal areas not just bearable, but healthy and pleasant. To meet the ever-growing water requirements of our towns, mines, and cities, and for irrigation purposes, government is examining possibilities and proposals for the construction of more dams and raising the capacity of existing dams to supply the additional water requirement throughout the country.

In the field of national housing, government remains committed to ensure that all [words indistinct] in Zimbabwe has adequate housing at the least [word indistinct]. In the urban areas government will step up [words indistinct] and ecouragement [words indistinct] to make housing loans available to the workers and to expand construction of houses and flats for rent or for selling. On its part, and especially in respect of rural areas, the government will ensure that greater use is made of building [word indistinct] and that all housing development schemes are coordinated and that there is security of (?tenure) for the majority of the population to [words indistinct] into the urban area.

In the (?road structure), government does not [words indistinct] than in the past on the secondary and district roads. Our [word indistinct] go hand in hand with development in the settlement of people and we anticipate that road programs will greatly enhance development projects in all other sectors that stimulate the mobility and development of [word indistinct], established or well organized, democratic and efficient local government systems. To achieve this we will a) (?see) amalgamation of the present rulers and (district councils) into one form of local authority; b) ensure maximum coordination in all development programs in each province by making full use of the enhanced direct participation in development and decisionmaking at grassroots level through provincial, district [word indistinct] development committees, which will be supervised and monitored by the provincial governor; c) (?to ensure that) through training programs all our local authorities are financially and administratively viable; d) examine our central government, our central government can formulate a new system to bring about a [words indistinct] in local authorities.

[Words indistinct] man and woman and our regard [words indistinct] of the women that ZANU Women's League will play a crucial role in mobilizing and [word indistinct] women so that they become (?central) participants in the development (?program). [Words indistinct] a) encourage women to participate in income-generating activities and engage in cooperative, economic enterprises; b)to develop marketing strategy for foods they have produced; c) encourage women to take full advantage of adult literacy and other [words indistinct]; d) ensure that [words indistinct] and well-being of women is [words indistinct].

In the field of education, it is essential that all the progress that has been so far made be consolidated [words indistinct]. It is therefore proposed to the organizers in their training programs to improve the quality of teachers our training colleges will produce and carry out regular in-service and upgrading courses for teachers and education officers in order to enhance their professional competences. It will further plan to [word indistinct] our educational system by removing the numerous [words indistinct] in the system and provide an education established on [words indistinct]. It is further intended to ensure adequate facilities for all pupils [words indistinct] secondary schools. In order to ensure maximum provision of manpower resources for the country there are (plans) in the areas of training, including the following: a) [words indistinct] infrastructure in order to achieve self-sufficiency in all vital skills in as short a time as possible; b) localization of curricula and examination [word indistinct] policies; c) enactment of progressive legislation to ensure efficient development and utilization by human resources.

In the field of youth, sport, and culture it is necessary that our youth are imbued with the principles of socialism, self-discipline, self-reliance, and [word indistinct] and that programs are undertaken to democratize our sporting facilities. We shall encourage cultural activities that take into account our diverse and multiethnic cultural heritage. In this respect it is necessary to [word indistinct] a) establish a more [words indistinct] systematic distribution of (?youth) training centers where skills are given to our youth and [word indistinct] education is carried out by people who are carefully selected and carefully [word indistinct] so that they fully appreciate the nature and political (?dimensions) of their responsibilities; b) to provide a vigorous training program for [word indistinct] officers in project planning, management, and evaluation; c) to explore the expansion and development of democratization of sporting and recreational facilities and facilities in Zimbabwe; d) [word indistinct] the sporting potential of all our people and make sports [word indistinct] in raising the quality of life; e) encourage and promote all our performance [words indistinct] so that we may all enjoy our diverse and multiethnic cultural heritage; and f) to ensure the equitable distribution of library facilities throughout the country.

In the field of [words indistinct] it is planned to produce cheaper and more durable radios, to establish communications centers and rural newspapers, to (?write) and produce programs with more social emphasis.

In the field of natural resources and tourism, it is essential to embark on a program of national conservation by encouraging rural forestation programs in every communal area and by further developing the skills of our ecologists. Having established a Zimbabwe Tourism Development Corporation, it is planned to revitalize the tourist industry and promote both domestic and international tourist markets and as part and parcel of this to promote state participation in the hotel industry.

Comrades and Friends, distinguished Delegates, this report which I have had the honor to present [words indistinct] have tried to give you some idea of the course we (?chart), the objectives we realize, the methods and approaches we [words indistinct] we encountered, and the successes we achieved for and with the people. In [date indistinct] 1964 we were given a mandate. We, as the [words indistinct] of the party had started to organize and mobilize the people for the struggle to liberate our beloved Zimbabwe. We regard that mandate as a sacred one. [passage indistinct]. True, we made some mistakes along the way, but these [were] honest mistakes made in the pursuit of our goal. True, some of us in the leadership betrayed the cause and fell by the wayside, but those who remain continue the struggle all the same. Yet from time to time the [words indistinct] contradictions among us in the leadership, in the Army, and among the people generally. But we overcame this. Comrades, we not only overcame obstacles standing in our way, we achieved our primary, indeed, sacred, objective, namely the liberaiton of our country.

Our country is now free. Zimbabweans today are not just free in the sense that they govern themselves, they are free because they have recovered their sacred right to make their own history, to define and state their own destiny.

We thus sit in this historic congress, to all take stock of the past, and to define ways in which we travel this new [word indistinct]. We take stock of the past not to revise the conflicts fired by hatred that characterized that past, but because we can draw lessons from it, and because both the good and the evil that men did in this land is part of our history. We look to the future and face new challenges with the determination to make Zimbabwe the great and prosperous nation that history has taken [words indistinct]. Our report recalls our achievements as a liberation movement, and as a party in government. It has indicated some of our wishes and aspirations for the future. It has been, therefore, my singular honor as president of ZANU to present the report of the Central Committee to these our socialist comrades. As I now present it, I now have the honor also to present to you formally, although I have started in my capacity as prime minister to the people, to present to you, the ZANU [word indistinct]; to you, the delegates, elected from the various provinces and districts of ZANU; to you, the party, with our liberated Zimbabwe, to present to you together with this report, the invitation to spread out into the field to hunt for and find, to present to you this report [words indistinct].

And so, distingushed Delegates, Comrades, and Friends, it is now your right, your privilege, your obligation as set upon you by those who sent you here, to address attention to the important items of this report as I do. Also draw your attention to the important items on your agenda so that you can make decisions that will define the course of our revolution in the years ahead as in Gweru in 1964 we made decisions which defined the course of our history, the course that we followed right up to independence. It is in that humility and in that capacity as [words indistinct] in 1964 that I have the honor now to place this report before you. [slogans in vernacular]

Kaunda, Machel, Masire Speak

MB090800 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Text] Presidents Samora Machel of Mozambique and Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia have strongly denounced tribalism and regionalism which cause many problems in Africa. The two leaders as well as the Botswana president, Dr Quett Masire, delivered messages of solidarity to the people of Zimbabwe at the second ZANU-PF congress in Harare yesterday.

Dr Kaunda said the people should be made aware of the dangers of tribalism and the role of the party leadership in building a united nation. He also said Zambia's experience has shown that it is some leaders who cause disunity in order to promote their own selfish interests. Dr Kaunda said such activities create problems for a party and sow seeds of hatred between the people of various regions.

In his message of solidarity, Comrade Machel said imperialism is the same all over the world, and the fight against it is the same in all countries affected. He said Mozambique sends its warmest greetings to Zimbabwe on the first ZANU-PF congress after independence, and President Quett Masire of Botswana said Zimbabwe's independence opened new channels for political and economic cooperation with his country. He said relations between the two countries are excellent. The three presidents leave for home today.

Further on Visitor's Addresses

MB081945 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1935 GMT 8 Aug 84

[Text] Harare, Aug 8, SAPA — The second congress of Zimbabwe's ZANU-PF party went on into the night on its first day today, nearly three hours behind schedule.

After the Zimbabwean prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, had delivered his 4-1/2 hour report, and a late lunch break, Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda, in the first of a series of speeches on solidarity, told the enthusiastic crowd of 6,000 at the Borrowdale

Race Course that it would not be long before similar conferences were held in South Africa and Namibia. Africa would be free only "once South Africa and Namibia had been liberated," he said.

Mozambique President Samora Machel, in a flamboyant speech peppered with chants, songs and slogans, said his country's enemies came from within, and were often "compatriots who tried to make an impression with radical revolutionary and populaced rhetoric." he also said that, despite the signing of the Nkomati non-aggression pact with South Africa, in Mozambique "the revolution will succeed and socialism will triumph." The new situation demanded greater unity and cohesion between the front line states and members of SADCC, he said.

Botswana President Quett Masire, in a brief speech, praised the "statesmanlike qualities" Mr Mugabe had displayed at independence by inviting minority parties to join the government.

Tomorrow, the second day of the congress, is due to begin with messages of support from foreign delegates and in the afternoon party delegates will debate Mr Mugabe's report in closed session.

More on Machel Speech

MB090937 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Text] President Samora Machel said in Harare yesterday that Mozambique and Zimbabwe occupy a place that has previously been determined by the international strategy of capitalist exploitation and imperialism's general military policy.

The Mozambican head of state, who was speaking at the second ZANU-PF congress, said that the struggle for economic independence represents a decisive threat of disrupting these forces. As a result, the enemy reacts with brutal violence, with great mobility, and with sophisticated subtlety, Marshal Samora Machel stressed.

He said that the struggle for economic independence demands increased determination, unity, and awareness. Our experience has taught us that the enemy of economic independence can sometimes be even our brother, our cousin, our colleague at work, and even a party member, President Samora Machel stressed in his speech yesterday.

The enemy of our economic independence surfaces behind fellow countrymen whom it seeks to impress with its revolutionary, radical, and populist rhetoric, President Samora Machel said. The Mozambican head of state said that others, in routine daily life or in the name of legalism or technicalities, oppose the progress of the revolution.

When economic independence is built on a solid foundation of experiences of resistance and armed struggle, the enemy action takes the form of direct aggression or action by its agents, the armed bandits, the supreme Mozambican leader said in his speech at the Second ZANU-PF Congress in Harare.

Further on Kaunda Remarks

MB091004 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 9 Aug 84

[Text] His excellency the president [of Zambia], Dr Kaunda, has said the attainment of freedom in Zimbabwe's attainment of independence has been a great relief to Zambia, and has called for unity in that country in order to achieve economic development.

The president said this when he addressed the second congress of Zimbabwe's ruling ZANU-PF, which was officially opened by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe yesterday morning. Dr Kaunda received a standing ovation from the huge gathering at the end of his speech.

He said Zimbabwe's independence eased pressure on Zambia from the Rhodesian rebels and brought peace to areas that shared the border with Zimbabwe. He commended ZANU-PF and the people of Zimbabwe for defeating the enemy through a sustained and successful armed struggle. The president said Zimbabwe won independence because the people were united, and he warned that unless unity based on love and fair play was maintained the country would not achieve its objectives. He said Zimbabwe was now faced with a monumental challenge of creating a new situation of reconciliation, peace, stability, and economic development.

Dr Kaunda said Prime Minister Mugabe had so far done extremely well in creating racial harmony and peace in Zimbabwe since the achievement of independence. He emphasized that ZANU-PF should not allow disunity in the nation because that will be exploited by the nation's enemies. The president appealed to the people of Zimbabwe and ZANU-PF party to take great care in electing people into the party. President Kaunda is expected to return home today.